ZOISTIC MAGNETISM.

S. Wredgeland

ZOISTIC

MAGNETISM:

BEING THE SUBSTANCE OF TWO LECTURES, DESCRIPTIVE OF ORIGINAL VIEWS AND INVESTIGATIONS RESPECTING THIS MYSTERIOUS AGENCY;

DELIVERED, BY REQUEST, AT TORQUAY, ON THE 24TH OF APRIL AND 1ST OF MAY, 1849.

BY THE

REV. W. SCORESBY, D.D., F.R.S.,

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE; OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE, PHILIDELPHIA, &c., &c.

LONDON:

LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,

TORQUAY: COCKREM.

1849.

ADVERTISEMENT.

An Abstract of one of the Lectures herein, in substance, given, was originally published in the "*Torquay Directory*," of May 2nd, 1849, from the notes of a friend. This has been revised, extended and cast into the present form by the Author of the Investigations. In so doing he has not scrupled to transpose and combine passages which followed in a different order in the delivery of the Lectures;—the order, as originally set forth, being necessarily defective, because of an attempt, which proved unsatisfactory, to embrace the whole of the subject within the contracted limits of one Lecture.

W. S.

Torquay, May 12th, 1849.

ZOISTIC MAGNETISM.

LECTURE I.

ORDINARY PHENOMENA DEVELOPED IN PERSONAL RESEARCHES IN ZOISTIC MAGNETISM, WITH ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF THEIR ANALOGY WITH THE APPARENTLY COGNATE PHENOMENA OF MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY.

It required no small amount of moral courage, the Lecturer remarked, to undertake to speak publicly on a subject at which numbers look with suspicion; some with singular scepticism; some with horror or scorn;—a subject, too, the results of which were held by many as imposture, or even akin to mysteries ascribed to unhallowed power!

Thus the phenomena which he had undertaken to illustrate under the title of Zoistic Magnetism,—a designation which he, (Dr. S.,) had adopted as more applicable to a subject known in remote ages, than that derived from the name of a modern practitioner—had been summarily denounced as unfitting for investigation, by more than one writer, under an apparently pious dread of an intermeddling with inhibited agencies. Thus in a published letter from Char-

lotte Elizabeth to Miss Martineu, which some person had anonymously sent him, the phenomena of Mesmerism, first assumed to be supernatural, are confidently attributed to Satanic agency ;—for *if* supernatural, it is asserted, they must necessarily be diabolical !

Much, however, as he, the Lecturer, estimated the piety of feeling which had urged this publication, and the excellence of character of the writer,—he must, in self-justification when embarking on a field of investigation so characterised, say,—that the reasonings in support of the assumptions were as illogical, as the conclusions were devoid of proof. For so far from there being any ground for connecting Zoistic Magnetism with supernatural agency, or an agency, such as had been asserted, of an unhallowed nature,—the close analogy of its phenomena, with the well known laws of Magnetism and Electricity, brought the subject fairly within the province of the Natural Sciences ; whilst the beneficial nature of the results of Zoistic Magnetism, as far as he had observed, in cases of disease, led him to ascribe these results to influences essentially belonging to the constitution of organized beings, and to an agency implanted by a beneficent Providence. And as such, the phenomena must be worthy of similar consideration as that yielded to other departments of natural knowledge, and must, when duly elucidated, lead to similar results.

This at least must be the result of all enquiries into the Divine handy-work, humbly and reverently pursued,—the elucidation of "the eternal power and Godhead" of the Great Creator: and the subject now under consideration, belonging to the constitution of man, must be associated with the 'works of the Lord, which are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.'

But the objections made to the results asserted of Zoistic Magnetism, were only correspondent with frequent experience in other cases. The early history of science presented many similar examples; evidence was rejected because the facts seemed inexplicable; and persecution, was, in some cases, resorted to as the readiest process for disproving them. It was the characteristic of a comparatively barbarous age, to ascribe to witchcraft, the triumphs of superior intelligence, or to commit to the inquisition men of soaring genius who *dared* to adventure on new and better expositions of existing phenomena, and the correction of existing errors.

Every successive step, however, in inductive science, was a rebuke to popular scepticism, as to truth and fact. And many of the results in the scientific enterprize of modern times, had not only rebuked the questionings of multitudes, but had exhibited the most splendid examples of the triumph of human genius over pre-conceived ideas

of the impossible. To catch a shadow was proverbial, even in our own recollection, as an impossibility; now, in the Daguerotype process, the shadow is actually caught, and indelibly impressed on a surface of metal! "Swift as thought," was a recent idea of progress with which no agency available by man could compete; yet as quick as thought, by means of the electric telegraph, may now our ideas be communicated from sea to sea across our island! And still discovery is advancing; none can fix the limits of the possible.

Various objections, indeed, were wont to be urged against *experimenting* on Zoistic Magnetism, which, so far as they apply to useless exhibitions, might be well founded; for it is neither *fitting*, nor may it always be *safe*, to perform such experiments for mere amusement. The story of a Phaeton, as to the disastrous result of an attempt to manage, with unskilful and presumptuous hands, the chariot of his father,—was herein shown, as to the moral of it, not to be fiction. Presumptuous adventurers in the departments of Zoistic Magnetism had sometimes, he believed, succeeded in evoking powers, which, to their dismay they found, they had not skill nor discretion to manage or controul.

In many departments of science and knowledge, indeed, the power of evoking an agent

might exist without the skill to regulate or controul it. A child could kindle a flame which might defy the power of man to quench. In Magnetism, too, we could thus illustrate the point referred to. We shew a person, previously ignorant of Magnetics, the process of Magnetizing a bar or instrument of steel. He imitates our process, and succeeds in making the instrument Magnetic. But he will try in *vain*, unless peculiarly skilled, to reduce it again to a *perfectly* neutral state.

But what may be unmeet for idle amusement, may be very proper for purposes of utility. For for objects of utility,—whether as to the investigation of the physiology of the human system ; or whether as to the determining of the power of this agent in the relieving of human suffering, or curing of disease,—we had abundant grounds for justifying, yea for commending and extending, experiments in this particular department of mysterious research. For all the arguments against Zoistic Magnetism, which have *real* foundation, on account of dangers, or liabilities to abuse, go only, legitimately to shew,—the importance of acquiring a correct knowledge of the laws under which such a powerful agent acts, in order to the administration of its influence beneficially, and, to secure, in such administration, against any probable dangers.

The power referred to was, no doubt, of a

wonderful and mysterious character. But the works of the Creator, in every department of observation and science, presented not only mysteries, but a world of wonders. Yet the *reality* of these wonderful things, mysterious as they might be, was not, could not, be denied.

In illustration, in one department of science to which he had devoted much attention, of the *reality* of a wonderful and unseen agency, and its mysterious operations, he exhibited an experiment of his own with a plate of iron. The iron on being struck with the hand whilst held in a certain direction, became magnetic, and would attract the north pole of the needle ; if struck whilst held in another direction, or pointed downwards, it would repel it, and if struck in a horizontal position would again loose all its powers,—phenomena, which being contemplated without knowledge of the cause, were involved in mystery as great as was the subject he had to bring before them ; but which, being referred to the inductive influence of terrestrial magnetism, became reasonably intelligible.

It had been urged, again, as an objection to Zoistic Magnetism, being regarded as a science, that its results were not invariable, or reducible to fixed laws ; but this was readily explained by the ever-varying nature of the subjects of experiment ; as the highly organized body and mind of a living being must necessarily be acted upon

with less uniform results than the passive material, operated upon in the purely physical sciences. As an illustration, however, of a somewhat analagous diversity observable even in unorganized materials, he exhibited two bars of steel, precisely the same in quality and appearance, one of which was scarcely affected by a powerful magnet, whilst the other became magnetic by a single touch; the difference arising solely from their different degrees of hardness;—thus, he argued, it was reasonable to anticipate a corresponding diversity in the influences of Mesmerism according to the diverse temperaments of the human system. But he might illustrate this analogy still further. He might take two bar magnets,—one of best cast steel, and made perfectly *hard*, representing the *operator;* the other of *inferior* steel, untempered or quite soft, representing the *subject*. If he placed these magnets upon one another, with their corresponding polarities in contact, or, more especially, if he made magnetizing passes along each other in the direction adverse to their condition of magnetic tension,—then, it would be seen, that the weaker lost its characteristic magnetism and was reduced into conformity with the magnetism of the master-influence.

This experiment might represent the case of two individuals trying their strength together, as to which could magnetically subdue the other;

—a case which actually happened in his own experience. He was residing, last October, in the same house with an interesting young friend, who was the first in whom he had succeeded in developing any striking phenomena. One evening whilst he was sitting after dinner, in an easy chair, his friend came up to him in a playful manner, took both his hands in hers, and looking him steadily in the face, said, "I'm going to mesmerise you." "Very well; go on," was his reply. She did go on, he, at the same time, exerting his own magnetizing influences. But suddenly she became conscious of a most unexpected influence in herself, almost closing her eyes. She darted off, under the surprise, uttering an amusing exclamation,—whilst he, Dr. S. remarked—"You have caught a Tartar, Miss!"

In whatever power, therefore, the lecturer argued, the development of the magnetic phenomena in the human subject may consist;—whether in superiority of physical or mental strength, or nervous energy,—this fact is obvious, that, for success in the experiment, there must be superiority, either in the individual capabilities, or in the degree of nervous or magnetic energy exerted, in the agent in the operation.

His attention had first been directed to this investigation partly by the very inconclusive and unsatisfactory nature of some public exhibitions

which he had witnessed ; and partly by a very different result in the case of a lady in Exeter whom he was invited to visit, who had been recovered from most afflictive suffering under tic doloreux, and who, whilst he was present with her, exhibited phenomena of a very striking nature, the reality of which were indisputable.

The result of his consideration of what he had witnessed and heard, was the determination, whenever opportunities might offer, to try for himself the asserted phenomena. And such opportunities were not lacking. Up to the present time, he had reckoned rather more than *thirty* different cases whereon he had made trial ; and, including repetitions with the same subject, his various experiments had amounted to about *seventy*.

As the individuals who had kindly submitted themselves to experiment, or, rather, of whose confidingness he had availed himself, were females—he had felt it due to himself, as well as to them, to have, at least, a third person present ; to have the consent of parents, or proper guardian in case of young persons ; or of the husband, in case of a wife. In two instances, only, had he departed from this rule.

The objects he had had chiefly in view, since he had ascertained his personal capabilities of developing the condition of Zoistic Magnetism, were : the scientific investigation of facts and

phenomena; the magnetic or electric (?) physiology of the human system; and any curative, or other beneficial effects or capabilities, of this powerful agency.

He owed a debt of gratitude, which he had much satisfaction in expressing, to those who had submitted themselves to his experiments, as well as to the parents or husbands who had sanctioned their so doing, whereby he had gained an amount of knowledge which, he hoped, would be found not only to be interesting, as related to the development of a curious series of facts; but useful, as a contribution to general science, and, in regard of its curative applications, to humanity. That consideration for the feelings of those who had yielded him their confidence, in reference to a prevalent shrinking from publicity, had been duly regarded, he trusted, his communications now to be made would evince; as, whatever use he might feel himself at liberty to make of facts, as such, he should in no case connect the facts with individuals unless by special permission.

His own experiments, the lecturer proceeded to state, had been conducted principally, with previously untested subjects; and these, except two, in a rank and condition of life affording the most satisfactory results, and the best security against either mistake or deception. Out of the entire number of cases he had tried, with ladies,

he had been successful in eliciting more or less of the characteristic phenomena of Zoistic Magnetism in above one-half, and, generally, at the first trial. Out of about *seventy experiments*, less than one-third only had altogether failed; whilst in nearly two-thirds, phenomena of an interesting nature had been elicited.

He had proceeded in his investigations, since the time when they had become sufficiently specific in their developments, on the most rigid principles of inductive science; noting, in the results, these phenomena only which were indisputable. His attention, in accordance with the objects already set forth, had been principally directed to the physiological characteristics of this mysterious agency; to the tracing of its apparent magneto-electric properties; and to the capability of the influence of relieving human suffering, or curatively, to its action on disease.

His first attempt was made, under not very favourable circumstances, Dec. 17th, 1845. An obvious influence, however, in one of two ladies who offered for the occasion, was produced.

The sixth experiment, made July 17th, 1846, proved so satisfactory and beautiful, that the parties present were intensely interested, and none more than himself astonished, at the effects he had been the instrument of producing.

The subject, in this case, was an elegant, talented and accomplished girl of about sixteen. On

witnessing the expression of exquisite enjoyment beaming in her countenance, her parents, who had previously been sceptical on the subject, were much affected, one of them, even to tears ; whilst another lady, being the only addition to the party, was so struck with the beauty of the countenance that she described it as "the face of an angel !"

Her answers to questions which I proposed were indicative of a very pious condition of mind and of a feeling of felicity :—" I was never so happy in my life : I dont deserve to be so happy : it is heavenly !"—" I hope I *am* God's child : if I did not think so I could not be happy !"

She was most unwilling to be awoke ; wishing to remain where she was all night. On being awoke, she felt very sleepy—and slept soundly and sweetly ; a long, refreshing sleep, and then arose, still happy, lively as the lark. Her feelings, during the night, she described as being singularly happy,—not so much in the circumstance of dreams as in *emotions*, which, she described, as being of a pious and spiritual nature. The joyous feeling remained during the next day, and no reaction whatever took place.

Experiments made with two interesting young ladies, sisters, in July of last year, afforded a number of very beautiful (though mesmerically considered, ordinary) phenomena. Both of them at different *séances*, fell into a species or *filicitous*

trance. They conversed with the magnetizer freely; but the voices of other persons in the room were inaudible to them. In one of the cases, his own voice was not heard when he retired *out of contact* with the subject. Passes from the head downward, quite clear of the dress, were distinctly felt, and elicited pleasurable, sometimes delightful, sensations. His fingers being pointed downward, towards any part of the body or limbs, without contact of the dress, were felt. "It was," as one said, "as if something like electrical current was coming from him to her." Upward passes always had an unpleasant effect, and changed the previously happy expression of the face into a frown.

Contact of the hand of any of the persons present, was unpleasant, and the intruding hand was always pushed off. When he had taken the hand of one of the ladies (the sister of the subject of experiment) his own hand, he found, had acquired an uncongenial influence indicated by discomposure of the face, and the impatient remark,—"You touched Fanny; don't touch Fanny, she's not mesmerised."

It might serve to illustrate the general state of feeling, in this and similar cases, Dr. S., remarked, as well as the self-possession and acuteness of the mental faculties—if he were to read, from his records of experiments, a part of the conversation with Miss Jane L——.

This young lady, it might be premised, was about seventeen years of age—a frank, confiding and amiable person; with a pleasing generous expression of countenance. The idea of the ridiculous, in her situation on the sofa, occasioned, at first, much playfulness of remark, and frequent bursts of laughter. But these soon ceased and passed into a state of sweet composure.

On first speaking to her, he, Dr. S., in a soft whisper, said—

"Are you pleasant, Jane?"

The reply, very softly uttered, was—"yes."

"Do you like it?"

"Very much."

"Do you feel happy?"

"Very happy: it is delightful."

"What makes you so happy?"

"I dont know: I am generally happy; but I was never *so* happy before."

Her face now beaming with a smile expressive of delight, he, Dr. S., said:—

"You remind me of my sweet child, Flora,"—the subject of his first interesting experiment—"but you do not know about her, do you?"

"Yes: Fanny told me about her."

"Would you wish to be like her?"

"I should much like it."

"But she is a very pious girl; lives in the love of God; do you love God?"

"Yes, I *hope* I do."

"If you do, my child, God loves *you;* for we cannot love Him, you know, without His first loving us: Do you desire, then, to give yourself to Him?"

"Oh, yes, I *wish* to do so."

"There is no happiness like that, and none without it."

"Yes, I know it,"—was the reply.

"Do you think true religion is gloomy, or cheerful"?

"Oh: cheerful."

"Cheerful," Dr. S. continued, "without levity. But can you distinguish the difference betwixt cheerfulness and levity?"

"There is a *great* difference."

Recurring to a previous topic, Dr. S. then asked;—

"Do you still find it pleasant and happy being mesmerized?"

"It is delightful: I should like to be always so": and then, with a peculiar ardour of expression, she added,—"It is not satanic—it is divine!"

"If it produces in you," Dr. S. proceeded, "as I hope it does—*pious* feelings, I think you may say so."

"It does."

"But you know you could not be *always* so."

"Why not?"

"Why! you would not be as one of the seven sleepers?"

"It would be *very pleasant*."

"But you must eat and drink ?"

"I don't want it."

"You would like to know my child Flora," Dr. S. continued,—"would you not ? she is so interesting."

"I should like it very much : but, I dare say" —she added, reflecting apparently on the description given of her when mesmerized, as being singularly lovely,—"I dare say you think me very ugly ?"

"Why should you say that ? you do *not* think so ; *female vanity* would tell you otherwise."

"Men are more vain ;" was the prompt reply.

"Women," Dr. S. playfully added, "you know, are characteristically vanity."

"Men are *more so*"—she tersely replied.

"Yet, though you may think so, you cannot do well without them."

Very dryly, she responded, and in a manner which caused a general burst of surprize and laughter :—

"*They are very well in their way !*"

At a more advanced period of the evening, after eliciting, in conversation, several of the peculiarities and phenomena already described, Dr. S. contemplating the placid, happy-looking face of his young friend, renewed his questionings, by saying :—

"I wish your mamma could see you now : I think she would be interested."

"Oh, I wish dear mamma *was here ;* and that she was mesmerized; it would make her *so* happy."—"I wish they were *all* mesmerized, it is so delightful."

"Do you think"– -alluding to a slight lameness, attended with some pain, in one of the ladies present, Dr. S. continued,—"that mesmerizing would do Mrs. S—— good ?"

"Yes : it would."

"But would it, think you, cure her lameness."

"No : I don't think it would ; but then she would be *so happy* that she would lose the pain."

"But suppose you were lame, would it, think you, do *you* good ?"

"I'm not lame : so I don't need it."

These selections from the conversation which passed, in this interesting case, he, the Lecturer had given, for the purpose of illustration as he had before intimated. The whole was characterized by similar liveliness and readiness. Mr. S——, indeed, at whose house the experiment was made, remarked, that it was like the effect of machinery. No time seemed to intervene betwixt the question and answer. The reply was generally instantaneous. So surprized, indeed, was this gentleman, who had previously considered mesmerism as mainly imposture, and many of its pretensions humbug ; that, frequently, when he witnessed strange results, which he now felt were realities, he threw up his hands, exclaiming,—"astonishing !" "wonderful !"

In the experiments with these young ladies, as well as in numerous other cases which he detailed, the principle of *attraction* was strikingly manifested. Not only was the hand of the subject raised and moved in various directions, by the proximate influence of his finger, without contact; but, in some cases, the subject, when placed on her feet, would follow him in her trance, with the eyes firmly closed, amid the scattered furniture of the room—walking against the table, as the shortest way in the direction of the attracting influence, when he had quickly stepped round behind it—and moving backward, and then slowly turning round, when he had silently, without his shoes, slipped unexpectedly behind her. Music, in one of these instances, produced a great effect; the time and rhythm of the air being evidently marked, and responded to in motion, as in waltzing,—the influence being irresistible, although giddiness and discomfort were the result.

The general state of feeling, he remarked, which had been elicited by the magnetic condition, was, in his experiments, that of happiness, often of *extreme enjoyment*. In all his successful experiments, indeed, he had met with only two or three exceptions, and these in the case of subjects of very nervous temperament. But in no case did any unpleasant effects remain.

He had always found them ready to converse,

after he himself had spoken to them; but not to commence a new conversation (that is, unstimulated by word or act) or voluntarily to start a new subject, or offer a gratuitous remark. He might except, however, a cataleptic case; as also that of a very intelligent young lady, who would sometimes *pursue* a subject of thought, of her own accord, which had been suggested by previous questions. He should further observe, with respect to the numerous conversations he had held, that in no one instance had an expression ever been uttered, by the subjects of his experiments, which they could have cared for being published to the world. Of the effect of an improper question, of his subjects, he could only judge by the self-possession, and the propriety ever indicated in what he had witnessed; and his decided judgment was, that, could he have made an unfitting enquiry of any of his subjects of experiment, he would have been answered with such rebuke as the abuse of his position might have deserved!

The *Memory* of the magnetized persons was found to be extremely quick and perfect. All information acquired previously was forthcoming, if solicited; the remembrance of facts and conversations was vivid; and the recollection of former conversations when in the magnetic state (which were utterly forgotten in the ordi-

nary waking state) was equally quick and accurate. For, as a general fact, it was observed, that, where there had been a due extent of the magnetic influence, no knowledge of what had passed, during the state of sleep, remained after the party was awoke. Indeed *every peculiar effect and influence* seemed, in a moment, after the opening of the eyes, *to have passed away*. The presence of the magnetizer, which before had been so strongly desired; the positive enjoyment of his proximity, or the painful feeling indicated if he retired out of juxtaposition; the repugnance to the approach of other persons, or consciousness of any difference in influence from the approach of those in the room,—all vanished with the cessation of the magnetic sleep!

These remarks, however, he should observe, applied chiefly, as *general phenomena*, to a particular stage of the magnetic influence, and to the result of experiments cautiously performed. For where cross or disturbing magnetisms had been unduly permitted, or where the state of coma had been very deep, both the progress of the awakening, and the state of feeling when awoke, were sometimes much otherwise.

The effects of his experiments, on different individuals, and sometimes (though not so usual) in different *séançes*, were very various as to the degree of depth of the sleep, the susceptibility to

external influences, and the variety of the phenomena elicited. Sometimes the influence was so partial that the eyes would be closed without the loss of consciousness or any other faculty. Persons in the room were then heard when speaking, or moving, and were readily discriminated. Their *touch* was instantly distinguished from that of the Magnetizer, and either discouraged, or remarked on as unpleasant. But in other cases, all consciousness of the presence, or voice of others, whilst remaining seated at a distance, ceased; though their *approach* to the Magnetized subject was generally felt, so as to produce disturbance, even whilst they were several yards off; and approach into contact, if inadvertently permitted, had sometimes painfully disturbing or unpleasant effects. There were cases, indeed, in which rude contact might have been dangerous.

With one young lady, who had become so susceptible that he had been able to close her eyes in four or five seconds of time,—a spontaneous influence took place when he was magnetizing her sister in the same room. Once when she was removed some yards from them, her eyes were suddenly and unexpectedly closed—on which she called out—"I can't open my eyes." This effect, however, Dr. S. ascribed to the imagination and sympathy of the individual; for the result was very different from that when she had been duly and specifically magnetized. In the

spontaneous case, she described the effect as consisting only in the *closing* of the eyes—as in all other respects her faculties were unaffected; but when she was duly acted upon, she said, "she felt mesmerized all over."

The eliciting of *sympathy of the senses*, was the highest species of phenomena, among those usually referred to mesmeric power, which he, Dr. S., had succeeded in developing. Phenomena, of this species, occurred on the first trial of a lady, a much attached friend, in Exeter. She was not only aware, (being with one hand in contact,) when he drank anything, however cautiously, with his face turned away, but instantly, on being asked, stated what it was—as "wine"—"water." And on his being pinched in the arm, she complained spontaneously of her own corresponding arm. When his foot was unexpectedly trod upon, she drew her foot up under her dress, complaining that it cramped her foot. And likewise, on his head being rapped with the knuckles of a friend, she put her hand to her own head and expressed discomfort or pain.

But results of this order, still more interesting, were elaborately developed in other cases and experiments. In one of these—the case of Miss Mary P——, an elegant and interesting young friend,—the sensibility and sympathy were, on the first trial, so peculiarly elicited, as to yield a

fair expectation of realizing ultimately, (if any where,) the higher phenomena asserted of Zoistic Magnetism. But opportunity, unfortunately, was not afforded for the full investigation.

In another case, however, where the circumstances were more favourable for a long and careful *séance*, the results were of such peculiar interest as to deserve to be described more in detail.

The subject, in this instance, was an interesting girl of about fifteen—a member of a pious family—whose confiding and affectionate disposition, with peculiar sensitiveness and playfulness, had brought about, mutually, a rather favourable acquaintance some weeks before.

On the very first trial (a trial recently made), the phenomena arising out of community of taste and sensation, were developed in a very high degree, as would be shewn, satisfactorily, he, Dr. S. believed, by the particulars he was about to give taken from his manuscript records of personal experiments in Zoistic Magnetism. He should proceed at once to the description of the experiments in this particular department of research, merely premising, that his young friend was in the state usually called, "sleep-waking," with her eyes completely closed; that she was lying on a couch, he being seated on a chair by the side of it; and that, throughout these experi-

ments, he always maintained his contact, by holding her left hand with his right.

A tumbler glass, containing some water, having, at Dr. S.'s intimation, been cautiously put on a chair and pushed forward within reach, (this caution being requisite from the extreme sensitiveness of the subject) Miss Anna shrunk, as if uncomfortable, the moment he took hold of it. The fact of the discomfort, he might observe, was, in this and in many other cases, determined, by a peculiar tremulous grasp of his hand, with which he kept his connection with his young friend,—which, like the delicate perception of the fisherman through the medium of his rod, of the smallest touch on his bait or line, afforded a general and most sensitive test of any discomfort, or disturbance, in the subject of experiment.

On realizing this sign of discomfort in Miss Anna, when he took up the glass, he asked,—

"What is it you dislike?"

"That *cold* thing,"—she replied.

"What is it?"

"A glass;—I don't like it it is *so* cold."

Drinking a portion of it, with his head turned away, he continued his enquiries,—

"What is it that I tasted?"

"Water"—she instantly replied; "but I don't like it."

Considering that this repugnancy arose from the incongenial magnetic or electric condition of

the glass, from its having been touched by other hands, or not duly assimilated with his own touch, he passed the fingers of his left hand over it whilst it rested on the chair, and darted the points of his fingers towards, sometimes so as to touch, the surface of the water.

On his again tasting it, she manifested *less* repugnance.

"It is not now so unpleasant," she said, on the enquiry being made, "as it was."

Repeating the magnetizing manipulations on the glass, Dr. S. tried the experiment of drinking a *third* time: Anna now expressed no particular dislike to it. Probably, had the process been continued, her dislike would have changed to the converse.

Wine, was then handed to him, Dr. S., in a wine-glass, and, as in the other case, through the medium of the chair. On his tasting it, though with his face turned quite away from the sofa, the effect was obviously very disagreeable to Anna. This feeling was not only indicated by the peculiar tremulous or spasmodic action with the fingers, but strongly marked in the change of the previously happy expression of countenance.

"It is wine;" she said, "and I don't like it."

"I taste it in my mouth: it goes into my head."

On repeating the trial very cautiously at a subsequent period in the *séance,* she instantly detected it, and, on the enquiry being put, she said,—

"I don't like wine: I never take it: it is disagreeable: don't take any more."

"What have I?" asked Dr. S.

"You have *half a glass* of wine."—It was precisely so!

Mrs. G——, who was present, on being beckoned to stretch out her hand towards his, did so till the points of their fingers came into contact. Anna immediately noticed it, and begged him not to touch any one—or, not to let any one touch him.

He next beckoned for some article standing by the fire-place, which was immediately handed to him, but so much behind and beneath the level of the sofa, as to have been invisible to Anna, had her eyes been open. She instantly felt it, and expressed dislike. On being asked, "why?" she said—"it is cold." "What is it?" "The poker."

In the like guarded manner, Mrs. G——, keeping in a stooping position and still under the screen of the head of the sofa, handed the experimenter a variety of articles, most of which Anna described (evidently from the sensations produced) correctly,—that is, as to their nature, or the *material* of which they were composed. A mistake occurred in the case of a *tea*-kettle of tinned-iron, taken from the hob, the handle of which was warm—just about blood-heat:—this she mistook for wood!

Unexpectedly, as far as Dr. S. was concerned, Mrs. G. pinched his foot ; immediately Anna indicated discomfort.

" What is it," Dr. S. asked ; " where did you feel any thing ?"

" In my foot."

" Which foot ?"

" The left."

" Which now ?"—Mrs. G. having changed to the other.

" The right."

" Where now ?"—Dr. S. continued to enquire, as Mrs G. pushed the point of a hard substance against his leg,—" where now ?"

" My foot"—was still the reply.

All the persons present were here much amused by finding how much she was alive to the nicities of the most scrupulous conventionals, as it clearly came out when Dr. S. said,—

" It is *not* the foot."

" Yes ; the foot. . . *above the ancle !*"

The various answers given to questions put to this amiable young person were very interesting, as characterized by intelligence, appropriateness and piety of feeling.

In another case, which had very striking and interesting results,—that of a Lady of much energy, frankness, and individuality of character, —the community of taste and sensation were highly developed.

Miss H——'s condition, generally indeed, was analagous to several that he had witnessed,—in sensibility to the approach of others than the Magnetizer; in felicity of feeling when the operator held her hands, and no cross-magnetism, nor movements in the room took place; and in unconsciousness of the voices, either when speaking or singing, of those in the room.

She did not generally specify what article was touched by him, Dr. S. but always felt any contact, or even proximity of persons or things brought near him. Every such exercise of sensation was unpleasant to her. She participated with him in the taste of water, and wine; both of which she disliked. On his biting a bit off a mint lozenge, she complained strongly against the injury to the teeth, and remonstrated with him for eating "such a vulgar thing."—But tincture of rhubarb, which, unwittingly to Dr. S., was handed to him, produced, immediately on his tasting it, (though with his head turned away) exclamations and actions singularly expressive of the most extreme disgust. All the natural indications of dislike he had ever seen in children, whilst taking nauseous medicines, characterized as such indications were by the entire unreserve of expression in children, both in word and circumstance,—were *embodied* in the case of Miss H——, in the experiment referred to!

He might just add, with regard to this very

interesting case, that the sensibility of Miss H——, to the movements of the persons in the room where she was, and even in an adjoining room having an open door betwixt, was singularly acute and surprising. Movements of the several persons around, though they might be seven or eight yards off, were both noticed and shewn to be disturbing, sometimes very distressing. Even the movements of two canary-birds, just behind the sofa, were unpleasantly felt.

The day after this experiment, Miss H—— described to him, Dr. S., in very striking and intelligent terms, the progress and changes, within the limits she could remember, in her feelings —her felicities and her disturbances. Her first peculiar perception, which occurred a few minutes after all the parties had taken their places, was as if a cloud were coming before her eyes,—increasing so in density as to produce an effect like that observed in "dissolving views:" all objects became gradually obscure and successively vanished, except the Magnetizer; him she saw a long time, his eyes appearing shining like two bright lights. At first, and whilst she was undisturbed, her feelings were *perfectly felicitous:* she felt as if she was in an ethereal region (a feeling remarkably indicated in the expression of her countenance), elevated, as in a commanding or superior position, above all who were present.

A still more admirable and extraordinary case, however, came within his, Dr. S's, experience, which, merely noticing it at present, he would reserve for further description.

It was a *cataleptic* case—the only specific one of the kind he had had,—in which the senses, generally, were inoperative, whilst the community of taste was such, as, by repeated trials was proved, not only to be realized when other parties were interposed betwixt the operator and the subject, but when the operator was entirely out of contact, and, had her eyes been open, out of sight!

In the investigations hitherto described, interesting, and, in many particulars, extraordinary as they might seem, he, Dr. S., had not proceeded in the development of phenomena to the extent attained, he believed, by many others in this department of the human physiology. Several degrees or stages, so to speak, of characteristic phenomena, had been described by writers on this subject: these to which distinctive differences might be ascribed, belonging to his own investigations, comprised, as he conceived, the following:—

1. A perceptible magnetic action, as observed in the eyes of the subject, with, perhaps, some dimness of sight, or heat of the forehead, but without sleep. This state he had found sufficient for soothing persons in a condition of excited feeling, or suffering under local pain.

2. A closing of the eyes, generally without power in the subject of opening them; but in other respects full consciousness of what was passing, and a capability of conversing with those around. Sometimes the *attraction* in this stage was found to be such as to cause the subject, if duly raised and placed on the floor of the room, to follow the magnetizer.

3. Sleep-waking, or somnambulism, in which the subject converses with the magnetizer only, but does not hear other persons; great sensitiveness to the approach of any person, but the operator; with the exhibition, when consistently magnetised, of a kind of polarity, comprising the experience of pleasurable feelings by contact or passes on the proper side, such as by the operator's *right* hand on the *left* side, and repellant or painful feelings, by contact or passes on the wrong side.

4. Sleep-waking, with the perception, in the subject, of *sensations*, either by taste, or by feeling, induced on the operator; at the same time, in certain cases, insensibility to pain, when pinched or pricked, for instance, on the proper side, by the Magnetizer. This, as well as the stage preceding it, has been generally found (no cross or interfering magnetism being permitted) to be a condition of great enjoyment, and, not unfrequently, of *peculiar felicity*.

5. Sleep of insensibility, in which,—whilst there may be sympathy of taste with the Mag-

netizer, or great experience of happiness, with singing, talking of things or places mentally contemplated,—the senses are not susceptible of personal impressions; so that treatment which, at other times, would occasion severe pain, is not felt, and objects placed before the eyes, though they might frequently be open, are not seen. This condition, it is hardly necessary to say, is one of those in which surgical operations may be performed without pain, or consciousness of injury, to the magnetized patient.

As to these definitions, however, derived, as they avowedly were, from his own investigations solely, he, Dr. S., must guard himself by saying, that he by no means puts them forth as being *universally* appropriate. For although he was fully authorized, he considered, in giving them, with some confidence, in their relation to his personal investigations, he could not assume,—after the experience he had had of the extraordinary and unexpected contradictions of what might have been fairly predicated,—that they would in all cases, even within their respective stages or degrees, be found to apply. The experience already acquired, indeed, would lead him to suppose it to be not improbable, but that, as *general definitions*, they would include or determine, too much.

The analogies of phenomena in Zoistic Magnetism, included in the definitions he had been submitting, with familiar facts in ordinary magnetism (not now to extend them to the equally striking relations they bore to certain electrical phenomena) might, as the Lecturer shewed, be thus illustrated experimentally.

The principle of *attraction*, admitted of a simple illustration in the ordinary experiments of the attraction of iron, or of concealed magnets in floating toys, by the magnet.

By the action of a magnet on a needle suspended on an universal joint, which Dr. S. exhibited, it was seen, that in the *following* of the marked end by the south pole of the bar magnet which he moved near it, or in the *receding* of the same end from the contrary pole of the magnet,—a fair illustration was yielded of the attractive and repellant effects of the dissimilar or similar hands of the operator in Zoistic Magnetism, on those of the subject of experiment.

And of the general sympathy of the subject with the operator, whether as to movements or otherwise,—he submitted an experiment, which, on the plan he had adopted, any persons, provided with a small bar magnet, and a bar of iron like it, could make for themselves. A small bar of iron, which he now exhibited, seven or eight inches long, he would place on the glass of his watch whilst the watch lay on the table; in this

case the convex surface of glass, being touched only by the polished piece of iron in a point, acted as a convenient pivot. So placed, the iron was inert, and indifferent to any particular position. But he now placed over it, say two or three inches distant, a strong bar magnet of similar size. Instantly, it was found, the iron bar had been *mesmerized* by the juxta-position, and would now follow the master magnet, as he turned it round, and would sympathize, as it was seen, in all its motions !

The analogy of the processes employed for the developing of the magnetic condition, in both Zoistic and ordinary magnetism, was, as Dr. S., experimentally shewed, equally close and interesting. As to the process generally employed in his experiments, this analogy was necessarily close ; because he had been guided, in regard to its mode and manipulations, by pre-consideration of what he knew respecting the magnetizing of steel. But the remarkably influential results of this process—hereafter to be more fully described —justified, he conceived, the relations and analogies he had been led to assume.

Witness, further, the analogy traceable betwixt the Zoistic and unorganic magnetism, in regard to the different degrees of tension or energy developed by mere contact, and by manipulation with passes. Let us take, for instance, said the

Lecturer, a straight bar of *soft* steel, unmagnetized ; and place it, first of all, betwixt the opposite poles of two strong bar magnets, and a *small* degree of magnetic power, is, we find, developed. But let us make *passes* from the middle of the bar to the end *without contact*, (strokes with the opposite poles of two bar magnets being at the same time made, whilst a slip of cardboard was interposed, from the middle to the extremities of the bar laid on the table) and mark the effect :—the previously weak and imperfectly magnetized bar now lifts, though no actual contact has been made, an ordinary portmanteau key. In the employment, however, of two bars of the *horse-shoe form*, one of them magnetic, the other to be operated on, these effects might, perhaps, prove to be still more analogous.

By the use of the same apparatus, he, Dr. S. might illustrate a further analogy in the *demesmerizing* processes. In order to this he would take the soft steel bar already magnetized, which, it would be observed, could sustain a key of moderate size. Whilst the key was thus sustained by the bar on the stand, he would make a stroke (or pass) with the adverse pole of the bar magnet, from the end supporting the key, towards the other extremity. The key now, as would be observed, fell, and the pole recently so energetic, was seen to be demagnetized.*

*This experiment to be demagnetizing to the extent of both poles, requires a change of the poles of the magnet after passing the middle of the bar operated on, so that the two polarities may be respectively subdued.

For this experiment represented, with considerable closeness, the usual mode of demesmerizing by reverse passes, though the result seemed also to be promoted (along with other means of a different kind) by lateral passes across the face and chest. In his own practice, indeed, he was very generally able to awaken his subjects in the manner he should describe, viz., by first gaining their *assent* to his so doing, by a representation to them of his reasons—the wish, for instance, or request, of parents or other persons having a *right* to controul; or, as to himself, the lateness of the hour, or other engagements:—and, when the assent had been gained, by breathing, or blowing softly, on the upper part of the face, over the eyes. Sometimes, however, a considerable time was requisite, with the employment of reverse passes, &c., in order that no discomfort or inconvenience might result.

This simple process of demagnetizing, however, generally as he had found it available, was not sufficient, he might observe, in *all* the cases which had come within his own experience. And as in a cataleptic case he had found it better, in regard to the securing of his confiding subject against unpleasant effects, to leave the dispersion or neutralization of the magnetizing influence to quiet and undisturbed repose, rather than to proceed in efforts for awakening beyond the simple and gentle means he had ordinarily employed,—

so he believed it had been generally found, that, in all cases of difficulty, this, of all other courses, was the safest and the best,—viz., to *allow the subject or patient to sleep it out.*

LECTURE II.

CONSIDERATIONS CONCERNING THE HIGHER, AND WHAT MIGHT BE DEEMED MORE QUESTIONABLE, PHENOMENA, ASCRIBED TO THE PROVINCE OF ZOISTIC MAGNETISM; ADDITIONAL AND ORIGINAL DEVELOPMENTS AND RESULTS OF FURTHER PERSONAL RESEARCHES; WITH AN EXPOSITION OF THE RATIONALE AND PROBABLE PHILOSOPHY OF THIS MYSTERIOUS AGENCY.

In the previous Lecture, he, Dr. Scoresby, had described, and had illustrated by experiments in another department of science, his researches in, what might be characterized as, the *ordinary facts* and phenomena of Zoistic Magnetism. His purpose generally had been, not to startle by questionable assertions concerning astounding wonders; but to appeal to the understanding of his audience, whilst justifying, on scientific analogies, the grounds of his own belief. Hence he had confined himself, in his descriptions of phenomena, altogether to what had been developed by his own researches,—mentioning only what he had seen with his own eyes, wrought, instrumentally, with his own hands and magnetic influence, and tested, as far as he was able, by his own experience and judgment.

Taking nothing for granted, he had thus *endeavoured to make his ground good at every step.* Starting, he believed, with a mind in a condition of enquiry, and with as much reserve of judgment as he could command, as to what might probably be matters of fact,—a reserve, however, siding more with doubt and questionings than with prepossession or credulity,—he himself felt, as he trusted would be felt by others, that the progress he had in this wise made, was the more satisfactory and conclusive.

Hence the developments already given, or yet to be given, would be found useful, he hoped, (inferior as they were to the records of others who had been digging longer and deeper in the same field) for enabling those whom he addressed to appreciate the facts ; and *in some measure* to discriminate betwixt the real and the unreal—betwixt fact and error—betwixt true philosophic phenomena and mere superstition,—betwixt the living wonders of the operations of Divinely planted laws in man, and the morbid creations of timid apprehensions, or pious jealous dread of baneful mysteries.

And the discrimination betwixt fact and error, he, Dr. S., might remind the audience, is not a matter of indifference even in science. We may dishonour the Great Author of Creation by denying the facts concerning His *wonderful works ;* as we dishonour the Great Author of Revelation

by denying the truths of the *Bible*. Not, indeed, that the rejection of truths in *philosophy* may be injurious to our best interests, like scepticism in religion; but yet our scientific scepticism may be dishonouring to God's handy-work, and disadvantageous, socially, intellectually, and *influentially*, to ourselves! If *science* has suffered damage by the religious scepticism of some of its advocates; so *religion*, it might be easily shewn, has not unfrequently suffered injury, (with reflective, intelligent minds,) from the scientific scepticism, or unreasonable denouncements of scientific developements, by some of its zealous and pious supporters!

Of the higher phenomena, as usually described, he had not himself had, until after the commencement of his lectures, any satisfactory examples. And though since then he had met with some new and remarkable phenomena, in a department of this field of research beyond what he had preconceived to be demonstrated fact; he could not, at present at least, receive in the same light, certain statements of a peculiar species of clairvoyance, &c., which were popularly set forth.

Whilst submitting, however, his personal impressions, it was but fair towards others more experienced than himself in this special etherial field of the human physiology, to say, that, in giving any opinion respecting certain phenomena,

he claimed no presumptuous right of judgment beyond what belonged to any one, who, with a reasonable experience in the niceties of scientific research, had had corresponding opportunities of arriving at a fair conclusion. And even if his judgment should be supported, *when he might object*, by the analogies of science and research in cognate phenomena,—he should still claim for it only such consideration as might be due to his grounds of objection, according to their satisfactoriness or deservings.

In truth, whilst at the beginning of his researches, he felt, in common with multitudes of others, not only great hesitation in receiving, but much boldness in rejecting, statements which he had deemed inconsistent with the essential relations of cause and effect,—he had been taught caution, by experience, as to what might be justly or safely denied, from the circumstance of phenomena, respecting which he had had strong doubts, *being forced upon him as truths* by incontrovertible evidence and demonstration. So that whilst he could not yet receive, some phenomena asserted of Zoistic Magnetism, as facts,—and for reasons which he would state,—yet developments of an order so much higher than what he had contemplated, had so unexpectedly arisen out of his own experiments, as to induce that caution in denying, or hesitation in disbelieving, to which he now adverted.

His own experiments, indeed, numerous and varied as, in their subjects and circumstances, they had been, were yet, in certain departments of this interesting field of research, necessarily defective, because of their having been made (except in two or three cases) *on persons in a state of health;* whilst it was reasonable to believe, that, in many cases of disease, the nervous influence—so specially acted on in Zoistic Magnetism—would be peculiarly sensitive and influential. Cases, indeed, of persons out of health were by no means of rare or questionable occurrence, in which extraordinary acuteness of the senses, nervous susceptibility to external influences, proneness to somnambulism, &c., had been witnessed and recorded *as phenomena resulting spontaneously from disease,* analogous to those developed by mesmeric manipulation. In cases so predisposed to results of the nature of these developed by Zoistic Magnetism, therefore, it could not be unreasonable to expect phenomena, within the limits of the powers implanted in the human organization, of a still higher order than what he, Dr. S., had been able to elicit.

The evidence of *phreno-magnetism,* or excitement of the cerebral organs, which he had obtained in his own experiments,—though he had frequently made trials in this department of Zoistic Magnetism—had not hitherto been satis-

factory. So that, although he had witnessed several cases by other hands, which he could not but think to have been real; his own mind was still in abeyance as to the question,—whether the results sprung *independently*, from an action on the phrenological organs? or *dependently*, from the influence of the will and special purpose of the manipulating agent in the experiments?

In the department of *clairvoyance*, his, Dr. Scoresby's, experience had been but very slight. He had never witnessed any of the performances of persons known or assumed to possess this faculty; nor had he met with cases, beyond what, in the course of this lecture, he should have occasion to describe, which had yielded examples of phenomena, of the nature of those usually characterized as *clairvoyant*. And, as to the glimpses which he had had of these ordinarily latent mysteries in the constitution of man,—he had some personal gratification in saying, that they were completely within the imaginable limits, he had for himself assigned, to the philosophic relations of cause and effect.

Of some of the alleged phenomena, however, —such as those of a prophetic nature, in which real predictions, not chance guesses, respecting circumstances dependent on the operations of the human will and actions, are asserted to have been given; or of the determination of things, abso-

lutely unknown to the clairvoyant or to any person around him, then passing, or having recently passed, in distant places or regions; or of the sudden acquisition of languages, or subjects of knowledge, previously unlearnt and unheard,—he, Dr. S., must avow himself altogether sceptical: nay, he must consider them, so far as his own judgment could enable him to form an opinion, as delusive, or mistaken, or not thoroughly tested, assumptions:—assumptions, also, adverse to the most universally established laws of physical science—the laws of cause and effect—and, as such, what he decidedly believed might be pronounced impossibilities!

In his earlier consideration of other phenomena ascribed to the clairvoyant state, he had associated with what he had just referred to, the statements concerning a power of reading through opaque substances, or of deciphering written or printed documents by the touch of the hand, or contact with the back of the head, the sole of the foot, or other parts of the surface of the human frame. But difficult as it might be to conceive of the accomplishment of ends belonging specially, apparently, to the organ of sight—an organ so beautifully, and, as an optical instrument, in many respects, so *intelligibly* constructed,—by parts of the system not designed by the Creator, as it should seem, for effecting such purposes at all; yet he must modify his former

views so far, (whilst not himself convinced of the reality of the power asserted to exist) as to separate this class of phenomena from that of the prophetic kind.*

Consistently, however, with the phenomenon of the *transmission of sensation*, from the agent to the subject, under the influence of Zoistic Magnetism,—which his own experiments had abundantly confirmed—he saw no impossibility *in the transfer of thought and feeling*, to the extent of receiving the picture in the mind of one, when *en rapport*, upon the mind of the subject under the higher influence of this mysterious agency.

That pictures in the mind of the magnetizer, might be transferred—as the camera obscura transfers the external scene into a picture within—he not only thought to be *within* the reasonable limits of possibility; but he must candidly state, that he thought evidence had been adduced, by men of unquestionable reputation and acknowledged talent, such as, if not to convince the un-

*In justice to a scientific friend who had gently remonstrated with Dr. S. on account of his statement, in a former lecture, of unbelief of what this friend considered to be facts in his own experience,—the Author adds an extract from his letter, which, in respect to one point referred to above, is, he admits, if not of conclusive, at least, of fair application.—"It is really no more *inexplicable*" his friend writes, "that the clairvoyant should be able to see through an ordinarily opaque body, than that your magnet (referring to an experiment Dr. S. had described in which a compass was moved through the body of a railway engine by a magnet at the opposite side, just as if there were nothing betwixt) should be able to *see through the steam-engine boiler!* Both are *equally above* mere human knowledge, but nothing more."

prejudiced enquirer, at least to demand caution in denying the statements to be, in reality, facts.

But whilst admitting, in all fairness and candour to others, *so much* in respect of what he, Dr. S., deemed not improbable developments in the region of clairvoyance ; he felt bound to justify, as to other and still more difficult phenomena, his own distinctive declaration of unbelief.

His grounds of unbelief were of two descriptions :—

First : In the *impossibility*, without a miracle, as he conceived, of determining passing events, at a distance, far beyond the reach of existing influences, or beyond the perception, when aided by instruments to the utmost, of the human faculties. And the *clear impossibility*, to his mind, also, of there being found in natural causes or agencies, any influence or medium by which events, *contingent* on the human will, yet unaccomplished, not actually begun, not even meditated by man, being certainly predetermined ; for such predeterminations must be clearly miraculous, and, consequently, within the peculiar province of omniscience !

Secondly,—he grounded his unbelief on the notorious fact of failure, by *any* clairvoyant, or *all* clairvoyants, of determining any thing, as far as he was aware, of *really useful* consideration. He might except, indeed, from this decided opinion of unbelief, the possibility, (as he might deem it)

of the gaining some insight into the state of diseased subjects, placed *en rapport* with the clairvoyant; or of prevision as to the effect of certain modes of relief (?); or of introvision, as to the condition of the viscera, &c., of the clairvoyant himself,—results, which, if fairly questionable, were yet, in measure and part at least, within the limits of influence betwixt the parties, such as he held to be not inconsistent with possibility, on the theory he had assumed and stated.

At the same time he must be free to state—that the only case of the assumption of such powers in a clairvoyant, which he had ever met with, unfortunately was *proved*, as he fully believed, to be one of *imposture ;*—the powers being *assumed*, as a profession, and the practice of the pretended powers employed, (under indeed a good deal of medical knowledge,) for the purpose of gain !

Another fact as to what clairvoyance ought to have been able to do, if real, but has never yet done, is one of some notoriety, viz., that whereas different individuals, disbelieving the assumptions of clairvoyants, or desirous of satisfactorily testing them, have enclosed bank notes in opaque envelopes, with the offer of any such note, as a reward to a successful attempt to read the inscription thereon, without penetrating or disturbing the

cover. But no such reward, for success, has ever been claimed; nor, of course, ever been earnt.

Finally, it might be added, in respect to this ground of unbelief, that purposes of immense utility have been submitted to clairvoyants, for determinations of various kinds, without ever, he believed, resulting in the obtaining of any information that could be essentially useful. If, by the way of illustration, clairvoyants can determine the state of things and persons in distant regions, as, in multitudes of idle results has been asserted, why do they not give some *useful information*. "Why," as a lady who was much interested in the fate of the absent Arctic expeditions, said to him when speaking of the pretensions referred to,—"Why, *if* they can tell what is passing at any distance, do they not tell where the discovery ships are, or what is their fate?"

Whilst on this part of his subject—discussing the claims, as to his views of them, to belief of the higher or more questionable phenomena asserted of Zoistic Magnetism—he might just refer to another particular in which he might be able to yield a strong measure of refutation. He referred to the assumption of powers in some Mesmerizers, of operating at great distances, and putting their patients to sleep, at their will, when the parties might be separated widely from each other.

He had two arguments to offer against the reality of such a power.

The first was derived from the operation of the law of influence in respect of distance. If any force, short of the Divine, could operate with an energy unaffected by distance, then the assumed power, might be a reality. But if, as his experiments had clearly determined, the power of the magnetizing agent actually *diminished* as the distance increased, then the preceptible operation of that power must necessarily be limited.

The second argument against the asserted powers, was derived from fact. Whilst he, Dr. S. had such highly creditable statements of facts in which patients had been put to sleep when the magnetizer was at a distance; he had always ascribed, as he doubted not the fact to be, these results to be due, not to any external agency, but to the power of the *imagination* and sympathy of the patient.

Reference to a single case would be sufficient, if not to *prove*, at least to justify, his view of this phenomenon. A friend of his who was mesmerizing curatively, told one of his patients, when he was about to leave home, that, on the following day, at a particular hour, he should exert his influence in order to place her in her accustomed mesmeric condition. On his return from his journey, he found that the result he had assumed had actually taken place; the patient, at the

proper time, duly went to sleep. But this, it so happened, was entirely independent of any effort on his part, or any act of his will,—for he himself let the hour pass by, having *altogether forgotten what he had proposed being done!*

In the descriptions of *phenomena* thus far given, there was little perhaps, as he, Dr. Scoresby, presumed,—except as to the illustrations and *individuality* of the facts,—that would be considered as very peculiar or novel. Those, indeed, as before he had intimated, who had made the subject of Zoistic Magnetism their study, and had had experience in its operations curatively, might deem the experience and practice hitherto declared as little more than elementary.

He had given these descriptions and details, however, rather fully, because of their standing independent of what had hitherto been published by others, as the results of personal researches, tested, too, in every particular and phenomenon, by all the experience, in the investigation of other branches of science, which he could bring to bear upon them. In these respects, therefore, he trusted they would not be deemed unworthy of the consideration and attention of his audience; nor unacceptable, as a *contribution*, however humble, to the body of facts, otherwise given to the public, in respect to the subject which he sought to elucidate.

It was due, perhaps, to the several investigators of the subject, which he, Dr. S., was discussing, (as, indeed, to himself, also) to state, that, if he had not referred to what they had done and more elaborately examined into—or if he had refrained, to a considerable extent, from reading the published views and expositions of others,—it was not that he did not fully estimate their labours; but that, he considered, it might do more *for the cause of truth*,—in respect to a subject that has been so much questioned, and, not unfrequently, held in contempt—to give his personal and independent researches, incomplete as, under such limited experience, they necessarily must be, than to attempt to embody with his own, the more elaborate researches and various views of Mesmerists in general.

He now, however, came to a branch of his Investigations, which (though in his unlearnedness, perhaps, he might be mistaken,) would be found to comprise features, not only of peculiar interest, but, in certain particulars, of novelty and originality.

It had been his, Dr. Scoresby's, desire, when communicating his further researches, to have embodied the *proceeds*, so to speak, of a great number of interesting experiments, in one compact series, with the view of obtaining some general results. But whilst the results, within his limited

experience, were assumed to spring from influences belonging essentially and generally to the human organization; yet, it must be admitted, that they had not been verified to the extent that might be desired, by other *agents*, and other *subjects*, so as conclusively to claim for them the character of general laws in the human physiology. As, indeed, there are peculiarities in every individual case, wherein the magnetizer or the magnetized is changed,—the results arrived at by any one experimenter, should have extensive confirmation, in order to their being received as *general*, by the requisite varieties *in both parties;* and as there are, in Zoistic Magnetism, different stages, characterized, to a certain extent, by distinctive phenomena, an additional difficulty is presented against results, *generally*, being set forth as essential characteristics of the constitution and physiology of man.

In regard to what had sprung out of his own investigations—comprising phenomena at once satisfactorily yielded, and, for the most part, rigidly tested,—he, Dr. S., had every confidence in setting them forth as *res facta*. Whatever differences, therefore, might necessarily pertain to the endless varieties in the *circumstances* of such researches,—the results he had arrived at he must consider as, specifically, in many cases, and relatively, (as to the respective stages) in all cases, involving general phenomena and general

laws. That is, as to results obtained through the medium of two of his best and most elaborately tried subjects,—he could have no doubt but that, whilst they were strictly conclusive in each individual case, they were relatively (in regard to the stage or degree of magnetization) indicative of general phenomena.

Among the results which had sprung out of his own distinctive investigations, he had regarded, as of peculiar interest and importance, those concerning a sort of *polarity* in Zoistic Magnetism, with sensibilities of an electric nature, apparently, of exquisite delicacy; and concerning the peculiar action *of electrics*, and, their insulating properties, on the magnetized subject.

By the term *polarity*, (which he used only conventionally) he, the lecturer, meant, not what in relation to its stricter use it might seem to imply, but, a condition produced under the action of Zoistic Magnetism, in which specific phenomena, of the nature of these attendant on, or resulting in, polarity, in the case of ordinary magnetism, are developed,—such as *attraction* of the hands of the agent and subject, in different magnetic or electric conditions; and *repulsion* of the hands or limbs, of either side from head to foot of the subject, when in a condition of tension or excitement of the same quality. Ordinarily, and most extensively, he had developed those characteristic influences and differences, by the mode of magne-

tizing whilst the *converse* hands of the operator and subject were in contact ; in such case *attraction* taking place betwixt the converse hands, &c. of the agent and subject, and *repulsion* betwixt the like hands, or similar sides of the body and limbs generally.

But, it should be observed, that the magnetic state may exist in a high degree of sensibility and energy in the subject or patient, without the distinct manifestations of these phenomena; whilst the phenomena, characteristic of polarity, may, in certain cases be developed, whilst the energy or depth of the magnetic condition is by no means great.

The *stages* in which the effects of polarity, (or different kinds of electricity?) were principally developed, were those of the "sleep-waking" denominations generally; but the insulating powers of electrics, in his experiments, were not always found to be conclusive and complete except in the lower sleep-waking state (that of No. 3, described at page 33) previous to the development of community of sensation.

In proceeding now with his more advanced investigations—instead of attempting to cast them together,—it might be more interesting to his audience, as well as more advantageous to his subject, his describing, separately, some

of the more instructive cases on which he had recently had the privilege of experimenting.

The first of the cases, whereby he should endeavour to elucidate and advance his subject, was one in which the effects of different modes of magnetizing,—the nature of the attractive and repellent influences,—and the *insulating* power of electrics,—had their most elaborate and specific developments. The subject in this case, was Miss P——, of W——, a young lady of much talent and cultivation of mind, as well as of frank and generous disposition; who, with full consent and approval of her parents, allowed him, Dr. S., every opportunity, mutually available, during a period of about seven weeks, for making such experiments as, in the progress of his investigations, he found requisite or desirable. On these occasions, comprising thirteen *séances*, and about twenty experiments, the mother of the young lady,—a pious, intelligent, and interesting person—was always, except once, present, and she frequently suggested varieties in the experiments, or subjects of conversation, which served greatly to enhance the interest, as well as the completeness, of the researches. Indeed each of the parties whose sanction to the experiments was requisite, yielded that sanction, to the confiding willingness of Dr. S.'s young friend, in the most unreserved and generous

manner,—all of them contemplating the object of the investigator as one of much importance, not only to science, but also, as it might prove, to the cause of suffering humanity.

This young lady, it might be mentioned, had become so susceptible to the magnetical influence by his hands, that, under favourable circumstances, he could generally close her eyes, without any previous manipulations, in from two to five minutes; and could always awake her by a few upward passes, or, as his *usual practice* was, by breathing, or blowing softly, on her forehead and eyes.

It was hardly necessary for him to say, where such perseverance was allowed him, by the affectionate and watchful mother, that no ill effects, or material personal inconvenience, ever resulted from any of his experiments.

The facts in Zoistic Magnetism, which he, Dr. S., had derived fundamentally from experiments with Miss P——, might, in some respects, be deemed as specific and individual, though they had been confirmed in many essential particulars by experiments with others. What he proposed to communicate in respect to these experiments would be mainly scientific;—otherwise the numerous instances of intelligent, clever and pious, sometimes of curious or amusing, replies, which his questions, during the magnetic sleep, had elicited, would have afforded, had he had time for details, an abundance of interesting matter.

His plan, to take chiefly the scientific part, might be most clearly and compactly carried out, by giving a general summary of the *results* arrived at during the whole series of elaborate investigations.

Classifying these results under certain specific characteristics, he should commence with,—

I. *The effect, in the depth of sleep and distinctive development of polarity* (such as he had defined it) *of various modes, or processes of magnetizing the subject.*

1. The arrangements and process which he, Dr. S., was led, from previous consideration of supposed principles in Zoistic Magnetism, to adopt, were found to yield the highest degree of sensibility to attractions and repulsions. And, as his method was usually the same, and had been found, in his experience generally, so extremely effective, he might here, advantageously, describe it in detail :—

The subject of experiment, being dressed in fabrics of *cotton* or *woollen* materials, was placed in an easy chair, comfortably supported, he, the experimenter, taking his seat on an ordinary chair, exactly in front, so that every part of the systems of the operator and subject should mutually be proximate, and opposite, to each other, in their converse sides ; that is, the *right* eye, shoulder, arm, hand, foot, &c. of the one party, being opposite to the *left* of the other. So

arranged, the natural polarities, as assumed, and the flow of the magnetic currents or electric influences, were supposed to be in the most favourable relations for their mutual development.

When, however, the subject, as was frequently the case, was placed on a sofa, or, with a curative object, on a bed, he, the operator, whilst sitting parallel and face to face, usually crossed his knees, and covered, with a view to insulation, his proximate knee with silk (which otherwise, he supposed, might act unfavourably,) so as to yield the most consistent arrangements for the magnetic developments. And beyond the particulars specified, he preferred (for reasons he could not now particularize) to have the sofa in the line of the magnetic meridian, with the head of the subject towards the north. But, it was in no case his practice, he might add, to take a position *higher* than his subject, so as to occasion a strain on the eyes by looking upward,—though so doing a degree of congestion might be produced, calculated to facilitate the magnetic arrangement,—but always to have the eyes of each party so directed as to take their natural and easy position.

Thus situated, respectively, the magnetic condition was generally (first of all) developed, by merely taking the hands of the subject in his, the operator's, hands, right with left, and left with right; and then steadily looking at each others eyes. After the eyes closed, and after a few

minutes continuance of motionless and silent contact of the hands—he proceeded to make passes, usually with one hand at a time, whilst retaining the other hand, from the head over the face, or side of the head, downward to the extremity of the arm, or, as far as easily practicable, towards the feet—always confining the manipulations of either hand to its proper side. In cases where the eyes could not be closed by the mere contact of hands, &c.,—passes were restorted to, partly free, (two or three inches above the dress,) and partly in contact with the dress of the subject, in aid of the quiescent influences. It was of course his practice, consistently with what has universally been deemed requisite, to give his mental energies and will to the object in view.

Every variation in the relative positions of operator and subject, or in modes of manipulation diverse from what had been suggested inductively from theory, he Dr. S., found, (so far as his experiments with Miss P—— went) *diminished* the susceptibility, or entirely obliterated the existance, of distinctive attractive and repellent influences.

2. Thus, when the operator occupied a place at *one side* of the subject, unless his knees were crossed so as to bring the right and left knees of the parties into proximity, the peculiar phenomena appeared to be less distinctive and the polarity less sensitive.

3. When, again, the parties were relatively situated as in No. 1,—the subject being placed recumbently on a sofa,—and the magnetizing was effected by the *eyes*, and *free* downward passes, *without contact* of the hands or otherwise,—the eyes were not closed till about twice the usual time, and very slight polarities were developed.

4. Situated respectively, as before described, the magnetizing,—to the extent of closing the eyes, which now occupied *thrice* the usual time,—was effected, by fixing the eyes, as ordinarily, but with the *similar* (or wrong) *hands in contact*;—that is, each party holding with the *right* hand, the *right* hand of the other. After sleep had been induced, various passes, some free and some in contact with the dress, were made by one hand at a time from the head downward to the feet, but so only that each hand was confined to the side of its *own denomination*; that is, the passes with the operator's *right* hand were made down the *right* side of the subject, and with the left correspondingly.

In this case, the sleep was so much less complete than usual, that the voice of another, than that of the operator, was heard and replied to, and no polarities (at least nothing repellent) were perceptible.

5. The same order of contact *(the wrong hand being held)* was tried in another experiment with

Miss P——; but varying the passes, by making them *upward*, with the view of ascertaining, whether, under this change of direction, a change might not be given to the general magnetic currents in the subject. The result, however, as far as a single experiment could be relied on, was singularly summary. For hardly had two free passes been made, on one side only, *upward*, before the subject opened her eyes, and became wide awake!

6. An attempt was made to magnetize by mere *contact* of the *proper hands*, under the same arrangements as before, *without the use of the eyes*. But after a continuance of several minutes, —twice or thrice the ordinary time,—no effect whatever was perceptible.

7. A further variation in the process was adopted, under the same general arrangements, by taking *both* hands of the subject in the right hand of the magnetizer, and the extremities of the shoes of both her feet in his left hand, whilst each looked the other steadily in the face. The eyes, as in other cases, were closed, but after a longer interval than usual; but the sleep was so slight that a reply was instantly given to a call by the mother of the young lady, with the intimation—"I am not asleep." "Why, then," he, Dr. S., asked, "did you close your eyes?" "Because I could not help it,"—was the answer.

Here, again, *no* polarities were developed.

II. *Phenomena resulting from, or attendant on, the state of polarity.*

The results of this section, it should be noted, though originally derived from experiments with Miss P——, had been extensively corroborated by other cases. But, it should be further observed, in respect to the effect of *other circumstances*, that the results might require considerable modification (as will hereafter appear) if contact, by the experimentor, with conflicting magnetisms or polarities should have taken place; or, still more so, if the magnetizer should have *breathed* on the hand, or other parts of the system, by means of which, or in which, some of the particular phenomena might have been developed.

1. The *Polarity*, (as for convenience of description he had designated this condition) indicated by repellent and attractive influences of the hand, &c., of the magnetizer—was found, in the most complete cases, to extend from the crown of the head to the point of the foot; but, otherwise, from the *shoulder joint*, downward; and though the sensitiveness was increased by proper downward passes, yet the parts not reached by the passes, as the feet in many instances, were magnetized *inductively*, so as often to exhibit extreme sensitiveness.

In the case of Miss P——, now more specially referred to, the head was, as it were, *an unity*; for no *repellent* influence was ever produced by

either proximity or touch with the adverse hand of the magnetizer, upon the head, or face, or neck of the subject,—no matter how highly susceptible, to an adverse influence, the other parts of the body and limbs might be. This difference, however, might not improbably be due to an inferior degree of magnetization; or to less sensitiveness than that of other cases.

2. There was an inseparable dependency for *polarities*, both in the instance of Miss P——, and in the cases of several others, on the existance of the sleep-waking-state; for, at the very instant when the eyes were opened, the sensible polarities, with their attendant enjoyments and disagreeable sensations, vanished. Either hand of the operator might now be applied to the *similar* hand or foot of the subject; and any of the parties in the room might now approach into contact, without the smallest feeling of discomfort, or other particular sensation, being produced.

This fact was verified in a great number of instances, and, however familiar it might be to those who witnessed it, invariably occasioned a renewal of the expressions of surprize.

Where, however, the subject was very susceptible and the state of coma deep, so as to render the awakening a work of time,—the cessation of sensitiveness to adverse polarities did not fully take place on the mere opening of the eyes. In-

dications of magnetization, would sometimes, in such cases, remain for a considerable interval after the return of vision and general consciousness.

3. The attractive and repellent influences existing betwixt the respective polarities of the magnetizer and the magnetized,—could not be exercised, or stimulated, without a remarkable effect and contrast on the feelings of the latter: and the effect of a change from agreeable to adverse influences, or the converse, on the expression of the countenance of the subject, was as sudden, as it was great and characteristic.

4. Contact of the *attracting hands*—that is, of right with left, or left with right of the agent and subject; or downward passes, whether free or in contact with the dress, with either hand of the operator, on the converse side or limb of the subject,—was almost always found to be productive of *pleasurable* sensations, often of delightful, or felicitous, feelings.

5. The mere proximity of the *right* hand of the operator, on the contrary, to any part of the *right* side of the body, from the shoulder to the foot, was always productive of repellent, and unpleasant effects,—sometimes as in a feeling of cold, but more frequently in the manner, apparently, of an electric shock. These effects were curiously and strikingly indicated by the singular changeableness of expression of the countenance,—the sweet and happy expression

becoming gradually grave, as the adverse hand approached within a few inches of her similar hand, or other parts of the same side of her person; passing into a frown, or expression of displeasure or pain, when it approached so as nearly to touch; and occasioning, by contact with the dress, if not before, a sudden withdrawal of the hand or foot, against the agreeable sensibilities of which this violence had been done! By the pointing of a finger, only, though at the distance of several inches, on the side of the repellent influence, these striking changes in the expression of feeling, would, in very sensitive cases, be produced.

6. Passes made entirely clear of the dress, and on subjects in complete darkness by reason of their closely compressed eyelids,—were generally, whenever the sensibility was considerable, distinctly felt; and the position of the operator's hand, whether in motion or stationary, over any part of the body or limbs, would, on the question being asked, be commonly pointed out.

Upward passes over the limbs, (if they did not reduce the magnetic condition of sleep) were productive of effects, which, in different subjects of his, occasioned their being described as "like rubbing upward a cat's back;" as being "unnatural," or "painful," or "cold," or "disagreeable, because they awaken."

7. Either hand of the subject being extended

by the *proper hand* of the magnetizer, would generally remain stretched out; and, by a few longitudinal passes, touching the extended arm with the points of his fingers, would become *rigid*, and often remain so for a long period together. In this condition it was generally found, that, on the approach to each other, or contact of, the points of the fingers of the principals in the experiment,—*attraction* or *repulsion* resulted, according as the hands were of the converse denomination, or the same.

The attraction was often sufficient to cause the rigid arm to revolve in the socket of the shoulder, just as, in the experiment he, Dr. S., had described, the needle suspended on an universal joint, followed the movements of the attracting magnet. The adverse influence, however, acted so far uncertainly as only *sometimes* to repel, but at others to relax the rigidity of the arm, or, occasionally, when the degree of sleep was slight, to awaken the subject.

8. If, when the right hand of the subject was thus stretched rigidly out, the fingers of the operator's left hand were pointed towards the other, as in the same extended line,—the degree of tension would be generally increased; whilst the pointing of the fingers of his right hand, in the same line, and approaching towards contact with those of the subject's right hand, would often cause the extended fingers to bend and

collapse, and then, not unfrequently, the arm to fall down. In susceptible cases—except where the rigidity was great,—the resolution of the rigidity took place whilst the adverse hands were at several inches distance from each other.

As to this result, respecting the peculiar influence of the adverse polarities of the magnetizer's hand on the rigid arm of the subject,—he, Dr. S., might exhibit an experiment, in ordinary magnetism, which yielded, he thought, an elegant illustration of the analogy existing between the two principles.

For this he had provided himself with a pair of strong bar magnets, to the marked, or north, end of one of which, whilst resting flat on a stand, he attached, so as to project horizontally, a series of several short cylinders of iron. The little cylinders, it might be observed, were hollow, and were connected, loosely, by a thread passing through the centres of a bit of cork in each of them, so as to admit of flexure, without entire separation, among themselves. As thus held out horizontally by the force of the magnetic attraction, they might be supposed to represent the condition of the rigid arm of the magnetized subject. Presenting, now, in the same horizontal line, the other bar magnet—the difference of effect, from its different poles, would be seen to be very striking. On presenting the *south* pole of the magnet in his hand, so as to approximate

the series of cylinders, the rigidity was observeably increased; but on approaching the series with the north or adverse pole, (being of the same denomination as that of the sustaining magnet) the cylinders, it would be noticed, became successively detached (as the fingers of his subject began to collapse,) and ultimately the whole series, when the antagonist magnet had approached sufficiently near, fell down on the table.

9. Downward passes, by the magnetizer's converse hand, along any side of the rigid arm and hand, generally caused a concave curvature of the fingers of the subject towards the side whereon the manipulations were made,—producing an upward curvature where the passes were made *above* the arm, and a lateral or downward curvature, when they were made on the sides, or below.

10. Besides the special attractive and repellent influences, on parts of the body or limbs, a *general attractive influence* was found to be created by the person of the operator on that of the subject. This influence was commonly such as to produce a feeling, for the time and, under given circumstances, of great happiness, and of attachment, by consequence, *during the séance*, to the instrumental source of it. On the retiring of the magnetizer, to a little distance from his subject, a feeling of discomfort, sometimes of intense anxiety verging to tears, was found to take place;

and such was the measure of attractive influence, under these circumstances, that the sleeping subject, as has been shewn, would sometimes follow the master-influence in his movements about the room.

11. The law of distance, in respect to the intensity of these influences, was not determined; but most conclusively it was shewn to have a ratio of the *nature* of that of other attracting or repelling powers,—the power diminishing clearly with the increase of the distance; varying, not improbably, as in other cases, in the ratio of the squares of the distance, inversely.

III. *Of generally repellent influences, of persons and things, on the feelings and sensibilities of the subject in the Zoistic Magnetic condition.*

The results thus far described belonged to influences, chiefly, it would have been observed, betwixt the magnetizer and his subject, whilst no other magnetisms of persons or things were peculiarly interfering: but he, the lecturer, had now to speak of influences resulting from the presence or movements of persons near, and from contact, by the magnetizer, either with them or other things.

1. The general effect of proximity, of other persons than the magnetizer, was found to be unpleasant or painful to the subject, more especially when any movement took place. Or-

dinarily, a person moving, when the subject was in a sleep-waking, and moderately sensitive, state, was felt at some yards distance; but, if the state was highly sensitive,—as would more particularly appear in his further accounts of experiments,—the magnetized subject was found to be sometimes disturbed by the slightest movements, such as those of the hands, or feet, or head of any of the persons present, though seated in the most distant part of the room; and to be painfully disturbed, or excited, (it might possibly be injuriously) by the near approach, or rude contact, of another.

2. The influence of persons, however, who might be seated near at the commencement of the experiment, or being subsequently brought up by the magnetizer, and placed *en rapport* with the subject,—was not found, whilst no change in contact, or movement in person, took place, to be disturbing to the subject under magnetic action, even when in a very sensitive state.

3. *Contact* with things, such as the touch of another not being *en rapport*, or the touch of any article or thing in the room, by the operator in the experiment, would be felt, and that sometimes painfully, in cases of delicate susceptibility, by the subject. And the experimenter being touched or pinched by another, might yield, in this case, as had been shewn, a reciprocating feeling in the subject; and his eating or drinking,

however cautiously and concealedly, might result in community of taste. Nor was this mysterious transference of sensible impressions from the person of the magnetizer to that of the subject, confined to impressions so made whilst the parties were in contact; but might take place, under circumstances favourable for the development of the phenomena, (as further records would shew) when the parties were separated by considerable intervening spaces in the room.

But the particulars of the results of this order, as developed in a highly sensitive subject, would come in with most advantage, in their proper place, in his descriptions of experimental investigations yet to be given.

4. The magnetized subject, he had generally found, (except in very low states of magnetization) was unregardful of questions asked by the persons in the room, and often insensible to any sound from their voices. But in other cases, whilst there was a general inability to discern what they might say,—a disturbing effect, as if from disagreeable impressions, was not unfrequently observed to take place.

IV. *Modifications of the phenomena, in polarity, and other peculiar effects, when the subject, Miss P——*, (with whom the results of this fourth section were specially obtained,) *was dressed in silk or satin fabrics.*

1. A dress of rich satin, in the case of Miss P——, was found to render the process of magnetization slower, and its development less energetic. The sleep was not so profound, so that the ear was generally sensible of other voices besides that of the magnetizer.

2. The arm could not be made in like manner rigid, as with a dress of other materials, when a long-sleeved satin dress was worn. The fingers could be extended; but the elbow and shoulder joints remained flexible.

3. The *satin dress* was found to be completely *insulating*, as to external attractions and repulsions. Passes, without contact, over the satin, were imperceptible. The proximity or contact of adverse hands, or feet, was not regarded; nor did contact over the dress, of the *right* hand of the operator with the *right* shoulder, arm, or knee, produce any revulsion of existing happy feeling, or any change in the countenance, or any apparent consciousness of particular sensation.

4. When the feet of the subject were drawn up beneath the dress, as instinctively they were when one of the persons in the room approached the *foot* of the sofa, she, Miss P——, no longer regarded the increased proximity. Her mother could now touch the sofa, and even place her hand over the satin-covered feet, without unpleasant effects being particularly marked. In fact, *all within the satin* was insulated,—encased

against external influences, like the tortoise in its shell!

5. Insulated, however, as the satin-covered parts of the body were from external influences, they were not defended against the general magnetic or electro-magnetic arrangement; but were all inductively magnetized. Hence, it was found, that any part, which, whilst covered, was defended from adverse polarities, became instantly susceptible if the insulating material were removed. But the magnetic condition was not found to be so intense in the general system, as where the whole person was enrobed in non-electrics. It resembled the magnetizing of a soft steel bar by contact, at the extremities only, with the opposite poles of two magnets; the magnetism was weaker throughout, though generally diffused.

6. By means of silk fabrics, or other *electrics*, any portion of the body, when magnetized under the most favourable circumstances of dress and position, could be instantly protected from adverse magnetisms. Thus, with a silk handkerchief interposed, he, Dr. S., could touch, without any apparent discomfort to the subject, her right hand with his right, or her left with his left. Such, also, were the insulating effects of oiled silk; window glass; paper covered with sealing-wax varnish; india-rubber, &c.

7. The susceptibility of the unprotected parts was, at the same time, as great as ever. If the

fingers of the operator's incongenial or repellent hand, were bent over the edge of the plate of glass, or extended at all beyond the margin of this or any other insulating substance,—instantly the brow of the subject was seen to contract as indicative of a feeling of discomfort. When he, Dr. S., slid his hand slowly down the satin sleeve over the arm of Miss P.; the instant that the points of his fingers advanced beyond the protecting dress, the repulsion and disturbance became manifest.

8. *Insulation from the earth*, in both Magnetizer and subject—so far as the interposition of thick silk and satin fabrics could avail—did not in any way, that he, Dr. S., could perceive, diminish or modify the effects. Under this arrangement,—no insulting material *covering* the subject, or being interposed betwixt the subject, and the magnetizer—her eyes were closed in about three minutes, and the sensitiveness, to repellent influences, was found to be as great as under the most favourable circumstances. Hence, it was inferred that the influence productive of the phenomena had not, as in frictional electricity, dependence on the earth; but must, like magnetism or voltaic electricity, have its sources inherently, or, in the animal organization.

9. No disturbance was produced,—either in the state of insulation of the last experiment, or under any other arrangements,—by juxta-position

or contact with the magnetized subject, on the needle of the *compass*, nor on the needle of a *delicate galvanometer*, nor on the gold leaf of an *electrometer*. With these several instruments the circuit was variously made, and the modes of contact were variously tried,—especially in connection with the points of the fingers when the arms were made rigid,—but no influence whatever could be detected. In the use of the galvanometer, he might mention, the connection was made by means of insulated copper wires, and the circuit was completed in several different ways.

10. *Bar-magnets* were also tried, as well as sticks of *excited sealing-wax*,—their extremities being presented to, or put in contact with, the points of the fingers of the extended and rigid arm, —but no sensible influence, as to attraction or repulsion, was, in the case of Miss P——, observed.

These results, however, are not noted as proofs that *no* influence might be elicited under the action of more powerful magnets, or more strongly excited electrics, or under more felicitous arrangements ; but only as indicating what occurred in the trials, he, Dr. S., had himself an opportunity of making.

The next case to which he, Dr. S., should refer, as yielding phenomena which, in his *then* expe-

rience, were novel to him, was one already alluded to in his first lecture.

Amelia O——, a young woman of about nineteen years of age, amiable in disposition, slight and rather delicate looking in person, had become, incidentally, the subject of experiment. She was from the country, and knew nothing, except by brief previous explanation, of what she might probably experience. In a few minutes she was under powerful magnetic influence; and, though her eyes did not remain permanently closed, it was evident, from the failure of repeated attempts to make her wink, that she saw nothing. Of external impressions, whether of sight or feeling, she seemed to be entirely insensible. Any one in the room, just as well as the magnetizer, could touch her without producing any apparent discomfort,—except with a *cold* hand. Pinching, or other means of making her feel, which could be tried without risk of subsequent unpleasantness, were utterly disregarded. In a few minutes after the commencement of the process, her previous grave timidity passed off, and was succeeded by a condition, when left undisturbed, of undeviating enjoyment. Sometimes she seemed quite felicitous. She laughed, and talked or sang, almost incessantly. In talking she seemed to have the actual and familiar scenes before her, which she described, or referred to, with a characteristic simplicity and innocency. Her

singing consisted always of hymns,—the sentiment of which she seemed to feel.

The phenomenon, in this case, which excited most special interest with all the persons present, was that of community of taste betwixt the subject and the agent in the experiment. He tasted wine, (a liquid which she greatly disliked) and her pleasant happy face was instantly disturbed. He took water, and she became composed. He ate biscuit, (a small thin and crisp kind) and she, smiling, as enjoying it, made movements of the lips and mouth as if eating. The effects were similar when six persons were interposed betwixt the parties; and, in every variation of the trial —except, when he, Dr. S., went out of the room, and beyond a thick wall—the effects were similar. When the experimenter was *out* of contact in the middle of the room, with his back turned to the subject; when he stood on an ottoman covered, with a view to insulation, with a silk handkerchief; and even when he retired into a further division of the drawing room, and ate and drank, and drank and ate, with the separating partition, to which folding doors were attached, interposed betwixt them,—she gave exactly the same tokens (except in degree) of dislike to wine, and relish of the biscuit he tasted, as she had done when they were in immediate contact. A thin sweet biscuit which he, Dr. S., also tasted, she relished exceedingly, and remarked, that 'the

sweet biscuits came from Mrs. W——s, she knew, because *she* had taken them in!' Her observations, superadded, on the respective accomplishments of the *cooks* of the two households, were at once characteristic and amusing.

The ordinary means, by gentle processes, failed in waking her up: but, being somewhat relieved from her previous unwillingness to move, she was taken up stairs, to rest, at his, Dr. S's., request, where she washed her hands, still in a state of somnambulism, remarking that the water (of the natural temperature) was warm. She slept it off in a few hours, and rose of her own accord, at the usual time, quite well.

A third case, the last he, Dr. S., should, in the series of mere experimental investigations, adduce, —was one which, to him, had yielded very singular information and delight. It was that of Miss H——, to which, in his first lecture (pp. 29-31,) he had referred, with respect only, however, of what he might designate an *introductory séance*; but which had become, in subsequent experiments during three more long *séances*, increasingly important, by reason of new investigations under improved experience, as well as intensely interesting in new or unexpected effects, and in scientifically consistent developments. For, most advantageously, as to the eliciting of such results, it happened, that whilst this lady pos-

sessed, naturally, a high degree of sensibility in temperament, and poetry of character,—her general intelligence and mental cultivation, qualified her for yielding developments of various phenomena, under singularly lively and distinctive characteristics.

The experiments with Miss H——, were made at the residence of Capt. P——, and, at the *séances* now to be described, in the drawing-room. This room, it should be noted, was so commodious and spacious that, when the subject of experiment was on a sofa near one of the windows, the company present (which varied from half-a-dozen to about fifteen persons) could be dispersed at considerable distances,—the principal part being generally seated on, or in a line with, a sofa, opposite to the window, so as to admit of a clear interval in the middle of the room, of at least five yards.

Miss H——, it was found, was so susceptible of the magnetic influence that, whilst recumbent on the sofa, her eyes could be permanently and completely closed, with very small effort on the part of Dr. S., and without a single pass being made, in the course of from one to three minutes. Sensible effects, indeed, were produced by the quiet and simple process he, Dr. S., had usually adopted, within half-a-dozen seconds of time after the contact of each other's hands. The previous smile changed rapidly, but by gradual

progress, into a grave expression of countenance —a few slight spasmodic startings occurred—the eyelids, at brief intervals, were transiently shut —the head bowed or fell aside, followed by a brief awakening, as of one just falling asleep— and then the eyes became finally closed. Shortly afterwards, sometimes whilst a few passes were being made, and sometimes before, a sweet and peculiar smile of child-like expression, and indicative of great happiness, would beam upon the countenance, when, conversation and experiments could forthwith be carried on, without particular effort of will or intention on his, Dr. S's., part, or risk of awakening on the part of his subject.

The phenomena elicited in these experiments were, as to their general characteristics, similar to what had been observed in some of the cases which he, Dr. S., had already described,—particularly in those of the Misses L——, W——, P——, and G——. But these with Miss H—— were characterized by sensitiveness, by diversity of developments, by advance into the class of the higher and more mysterious effects,—in degree and interest far exceeding what had been exhibited in any previous individual case within his experience.

Not, however, to go over the ground again which he had hitherto been traversing, where the effects elicited were but ordinary in their charac-

ter, he should confine himself, mainly, to the description of developments presenting, to his mind, something new, or more characteristically scientific. And as it might be convenient, for the sake of order and compactness, that the developments of the various *séances*, obtained through the medium of this admirable subject, should be classified and cast together,—he should now proceed, first of all, to describe,—

1. *The exceeding susceptibility of the subject to movements of persons in the room, and within or near the house.*

In the first and second *séances* with Miss H——, —various experiments had been made, as well as numerous incidental effects observed, in respect to *movements* of persons present at the time. Her sensibility was such that the smallest change of position, or even movement of the head or hand, of any of the company, was productive of unpleasant feelings,—as indicated by the contraction of the brow and the altered expression of the mouth,—as well as, not unfrequently, by a sort of spasmodic action on the body or limbs. The reality and extent of this sensibility had been repeatedly tested by movements designedly made, on his, Dr. S's., suggestion. The results were most decisive, as to an extraordinary perception in Miss H——, of every movement, though the parties might be separated by the breadth of the room.

On reconsidering these effects, it had occurred to him, Dr. S., that it might be objected—firmly as the eyes were closed—that she had possibly *heard* and understood, the intimations given by the experimenter, and so he, and others, might have been deceived. To meet this imagined objection, he had provided for the third *séance*, a large screen—it was a clothes-frame, of about ten feet wide and seven high, covered completely with folds of linen—which was placed betwixt the parties in the room, and the subject under experiment. The screen was about nine feet from the sofa on which Miss H—— was lying, and about six feet from another sofa at the back of the room, on which four ladies were seated. To avoid the use of words capable of guiding the subject,—could she, by any intuitive operation of mind or imagination, have exhibited the effects she might know to be expected,—he, Dr. S., had prepared a series of written directions for the guidance of his assisting friends, in which certain *movements*, designed to be made, were indicated by numbers instead of words. His numerical signals were to the following effect :—

1. Let one of the party rise cautiously and stand up, without other movement.

2. Stretch out the *right* hand towards the sofa opposite.

3. Stretch out the *left* hand.

4. Raise either hand above the head.

5. Sit down.

Thus prepared, and whilst Miss H—— was indicating great contentedness and happiness under contact of the proper hands, he, Dr. S., called softly, "number one,"—which was carried into effect in absolute silence; and instantly the brow contracted, and there was manifest appearance of disturbance. "Number two" being called out, the disturbance was increased. "Number three" produced a like effect. "Number four" occasioned still greater disturbance. After "number five" had been called, but few moments elapsed before all was repose and happiness in the expression of countenance of Miss H——.

The experiment was repeated several times at the third *séance*, and verified at the fourth, by different individuals, in succession, behind the screen. Sometimes it was varied by calling first of all—"number two,"—and thus going through the series of movements of the hands whilst seated. The effects were similar, though not so great. A still less effect, it was thought, in the degree of disturbance occurred, when a lady with a *muslin dress* obeyed the call for the various movements, than with one wearing a *silk* dress. The screen was subsequently overlaid, (above the previous covering of linen), with a quantity of shawls, cloaks, &c., made of fabrics of silk and satin, with a view of ascertaining, whether these might not intercept some of the radiant influence.

On two or three series of experiments, after the manner of the former, being made, the results seemed to justify the anticipation;—the effects, generally, though similar in nature to the former, seemed to be considerably less disturbing.

But the disturbing influence of personal movements was not limited to intervals of fourteen or fifteen feet. Persons moving in the hall were felt by Miss H——; men working on the lawn some forty yards distance produced disturbance; and carts, passing in a lane when about a hundred yards off, were observed to be *exceedingly* disturbing. Some of these effects, however, might possibly be the result of sound, or vibratory action, on the subject of experiment, the sensibility of whose faculties appeared to be singularly great.

2. *The adverse and repellent electricities (?) of all extraneous substances, as to their action on the magnetized subject.*

In using, as if interchangeable, the terms *electricity* and *magnetism*, whilst describing his experiments with Miss H——, he, Dr. S., would guard himself against the supposition of his doing so either in looseness of expression, or as if considering these influences identical. His reason for not at once substituting electricity for magnetism in his general descriptions would hereafter appear; but, meanwhile, he should feel himself

free to adopt either term, for the occasion, just as the one or the other seemed the best adapted to the apparant character of the phenomena.

Any substance, whatever, taken up from an adjoining table, or from the floor, or from the hand of another, produced, in Miss H——, an effect like that of an electric shock, whenever such substance was brought into contact with the hands, or feet, or indeed any part of the body, or on either side of the body;—the shock being almost as powerfully felt through the dress, as on the uncovered hands.

From this effect it was inferred, that all substances had, naturally, a quality of electricity, or of some other subtle influence, adverse to that of the magnetized subject.

And whilst, as he had before shewn, repellent effects were always produced by a touch of the hand, or knee, or other parts of the body of the experimenter, on any part of the body or limbs of the subject of the *same side;* it also was found that if either hand of the experimenter, had had but *momentary contact* with any extraneous person or substance, having its natural polarity, then it became repellent and unpleasant to the subject, no matter on what side, or part of the body, it might be placed. It might be further stated, that such was the inductive influence of these adverse electricities, that, after either hand of the operator had touched, (or, he believed

had been placed very near to) his own person on the converse side,—its action was found to have become repellent to the subject on the side even where, in its undisturbed polarity, it had been wont to have a soothing or a pleasurable influence.

3. *The neutralizing of the adverse or repellent electricities, of bodies or substances extraneous to the magnetized subject, by the breathing thereon by the magnetizer.*

Until he, Dr. S., discovered this simple method of neutralizing extraneous electricities, or reducing them to the condition of his own polarities, —his experiments on the effects of contact or proximity of extraneous substances with his very susceptible subject, had been surrounded with, apparently, inextricable embarrassments. Though, indeed, he might reduce his own repellent *local* polarities, into some measure of conformity with those of his subject, by persevering in contact, or making passes on the parts having adverse conditions of magnetism (or electricity)—and, by similar treatment of extraneous substances, might bring them into like congeniality; yet these processes were often attended with such great discomfort or pain to his kindly confiding friend, and sometimes required so much time for the required purpose being effected, that he was vastly relieved and aided when he found,—that

what had previously been a work of much difficulty, might now, by *the mere act of breathing*, be accomplished in a moment!

Thus whilst an instantaneous touch of any part of the *left* side of his sensitive subject, with a finger of his *left* hand, had invariably occasioned a start, as if by an electric shock, with a change of countenance from an expression, perhaps, of extreme happiness to that of displeasure or distress,—the same act being done after merely breathing on the points of his fingers, was attended either by an agreeable, or indifferent, result.

In like manner contact with extraneous substances, which ordinarily produced a convulsive start, would often be sustained after breathing on the erratic hand, by which they were taken up, without the smallest indication of either pain or dislike.

But the phenomena elicited, under the alternate action of the natural or adverse polarities, and of the neutralized condition, were so truly astonishing and beautiful as to deserve more particular description.

When, with a stick of red *sealing-wax*, taken from off an adjoining table, he touched the hand, or arm, knee or foot of Miss H——, on either side, she started, as if convulsively; and when he repeated contact after contact, on the *same* side or part, several repetitions of the shock, though with a gradual diminution of intensity, took place.

After renewing the adverse contact of the sealing-wax with the table, or with the hands of one of the persons in the room, he again touched the hand of Miss H——, with it, and, as before, there was a convulsive start; he then breathed on the wax and again touched her, when, instead of a *shock* and frown in the face, there was a quiet contented smile. This experiment, varying, in all conceivable ways, the manner of contact with adverse substances, he repeated, during three *séances*, at least a hundred times. And so rapid and certain were the changes—when, for instance, he touched Miss H——'s hand with the sealing-wax, alternately after contact with the sleeve of his coat, and after breathing upon it,—that they appeared absolutely marvellous: for there was now a shock and frown, then a smile of satisfaction; now a shock, then a smile, as rapid, in their changes, as the several manipulations could be effected, and as specific and characteristic in the effects, as the results of any process in electricity or magnetism whatever!

So, also, were the results, when contact with his hand, having *adverse* polarity, was made, before and after breathing on it. *Before* the breathing, there was a start with a frown; *after* the breathing, no start, but a complacent smile. In like manner, when his *proper* hand was applied to his subject, after contact with some extraneous substance, or with the wrong side of his body; the

relative effects, before and after breathing thereon, were similar :—for when the acts of contact and breathing were made at intervals of scarcely two seconds of time, and, alternated by numerous repetitions, the expected phenomena always took place with equal celerity and uniformity.

He must not omit, however, here to remark, that the neutralizing effect of breathing on his own hand was distinctly *local*. It made no change on the general polarities of the rest of his system. For, after the hand had been so neutralized, the shoulder, elbow, knee, &c. of the same side, were found still to possess their distinctive polarities.

Similar experiments to those he had just described, with a variety of substances, possessing very different qualities in respect of ordinary electricity, were also tried, and with corresponding results. Glass, *crystals*, *metals*, silk, paper, &c., were subjected to the same kind of process. In some of them, indeed, especially in the case of electrics generally,—it was needful, he imagined, to handle the substance and breathe upon it longer than with a non-electric, before the condition of *agreeable* neutrality seemed to be produced. But this condition, after a little perseverance, was invariably found to be produced.

The effects of breathing, it should be observed, were not peculiar, as by experiment, he had found,

to the human or animal electricity. For on exciting a stick of *sealing-wax*, or a cylinder of *glass*, under atmospheric circumstances highly favourable to the electrical development, he found he could neutralize its action on a delicate gold-leaf electrometer, in a few moments, by this very process. No matter what was the cause,—whether the breath, the dampness, or the force of air,—the result was similar to what had been realized in the experiments he had described.

In the experiments with this young lady, however, it was important to notice,—that she herself was *the actual electrometer*,—an electrometer of exquisite sensibility and delicacy. For whilst no electricities or magnetisms in her, could be made to shew sensible action on his delicate galvanometer, electrometer, or compass needle; she, the subject, was sensible of electrical, or other changes, which, probably, could not be detected by any instrument ever yet fabricated or devised by man!

4. *The insulating power of electrics.*

This important fact in natural science, was beautifully exhibited in the case of Miss H——. It was not, however, until after he, Dr. S., had discovered the neutralizing effect of *breathing*, so as to be able to disembarrass such materials of existing electricities, that he was able at all to connect these effects with the results attained from experiments with Miss P——.

Miss H——, whilst under the magnetic influence, being an *electrometer*, as he had stated, of exquisite sensibility, caused all insulating substances, on the early trials, apparently to fail. But, under the neutralizing process referred to, he ultimately found them abundantly and characteristically effective.

Thus having breathed over a sheet of paper covered with red sealing-wax varnish, which, previously, had occasioned something like a shock, —he found that when it was laid on his right knee, the hand of the same side of Miss H. would rest quietly thereon, being defended by its perfect insulation from the discordant influences. But when the intervening paper was withdrawn, instantly the face would be darkened by a frown and the hand snatched away.

The effect of silk, compared with the developments in the case of Miss P——, was, on his early trials, most perplexing. He had placed a silk handkerchief, with a view to insulation, over his *right* knee which was contiguous to the *right* side of his subject ; but when he attempted to place her right hand upon it, the silk was found to be repellent like the knee itself; and when he threw the handkerchief, as he took it from the knee, upon any part of the right side of Miss H——, it occasioned a shuddering repellency, as of an adverse electricity. But having breathed on and through the handkerchief, it no longer pro-

duced discomposure in the subject, no matter on what part of her person it might be thrown.

With the silk handkerchief thus neutralized by breathing through it, the reality of its protecting power was beautifully shewn. Being so prepared, and laid over the experimenter's right knee, the right hand of the subject, naturally adverse to such a contact, was placed upon it, where it reposed in perfect quiescence. Whilst so situated, he, Dr. S., slowly and cautiously drew away the handkerchief from betwixt the reposing hand and the sustaining knee: when, at the very instant that the insulation was violated, the arm of Miss H——, bending at the elbow joint, flew up with a sudden, and rather violent, blow against her shoulder! At different *séances*, and on several occasions, this curious and beautiful experiment was repeated. Sometimes he engaged the attention of his subject by conversation, whilst the withdrawal of the silk fabric was stealthily going on; but the result was utterly independent of either the attention or will of his subject. The bending of the arm was always the same and always as sudden. It reminded him, though a converse motion, of the release of a spring bayonet attached to a blunderbuss which he happened to possess, in which the bayonet flew out, with startling velocity, the instant the retaining bolt or trigger was withdrawn.

Another striking instance of insulation, which

was shewn on two different occasions, deserves yet to be described,—consisting of the insulation, in silk, of the person of one of the company. The Honorable Mrs. W——, being dressed in silk, and with a gown so ample as to touch the floor all round when she was standing at rest,—covered her head and arms, at Dr. S's. suggestion, with a small silk mantle, which was lying loose at her hand, and then, being beckoned forward, walked up to within about a yard of the magnetized subject. Under other circumstances the effect would have been almost convulsive; but now the approach of Mrs. W——, so thoroughly enveloped in silk, was hardly noticed. But when a hand was cautiously thrust out from beneath; or when the mantle was just opened in front so as to expose only a very small portion of the face, and but one eye,—there was instantly a start and a frown in Miss H——, (though her face was not in that direction) with a disturbance so increasingly distressing that Mrs. W. had either to renew her insulation, or retreat to the farther side of the room.

By these experiments, he, Dr. S., conceived it to be abundantly shewn, that the electric condition of the sensitive magnetized subject, and the insulating power of electrics,—as originally developed in Miss P——,—were not the effect of any idiosyncracy, in her case, but phenomena of a general character in Zoistic Magnetism.

5. *The conversion of painful inflictions into pleasurable sensations.*

This result was realized on, perhaps, a hundred trials, made, at intervals, during the four long *séances* with Miss H——. As any severities inflicted during the magnetic insensibility, would be felt, as injuries, on the awakening of the subject, he, Dr. S., could, of course, make trial of no pain-giving action beyond pinching, or pricking slightly with a pin,—and to the extent only, in either mode, to which persons in sport might try the sensibilities of one another.

But the effect of these, ordinarily, pain-giving processes, yielded to his magnetized friend, under the action of his *proper hand*, only *pleasurable sensations*. On pinching the top of her left foot, with the finger and thumb of his right hand, there was always an indication of enjoyment, and so, that the harder he pinched the more expressive and obvious were the signs of pleasure. Sometimes she would laugh out, as if in excess of enjoyment, and, being asked, why she laughed, she would reply—"because it is so pleasant." Very often as he pinched her, in order to shew to others the curious effect, she would say—"I like that": "go on": "it is delightful": just as in the ordinary state of the human system the like process would give *pain* to the subject; so in the magnetic state, and under the proper polarities, there were regularly produced the contrary feelings!

The effect of pricking with a pin was equally curious. For very many trials, indeed, he had been greatly embarrassed on finding a pin handed to him, or thrown to him, or taken from a table, always producing a sudden start and frown. And though he neutralized the electricity of the hand with which he took-up the pin, he found the effect the same. Or when, having taken up the pin and dropped it on the person of the subject over the centre of the chest, he had breathed on his hand before he took it up,—he still found a shock and pain produced. He found it difficult to believe, in respect to these results, that the small substance of the pin could in itself retain a quantity of adverse influence sufficient to produce the effects he witnessed. Ultimately, he inferred, that part of the effect might probably be due to the electricity induced on his hand in taking up the pin, even when he had had no contact with, but only proximity to, an adverse polarity; but still some repellent quality, after all allowances for such influence, seemed to abide in the metal of the pin.

Having, however, effectually neutralized the electricity of the pin, and of his own right hand whilst holding it, he found the action of its point, on the hands or feet of Miss H——, just as *pleasant* as the act of pinching! The more he pricked, the more she smiled approvingly. If he questioned her, whether she would not be dis-

pleased on awakening, to find herself pinched or pricked?—she always said "No, I shall not." "I like it": "do it again": "go on."

That pain, in the waking state, would have resulted from these experiments, he, Dr. S., had been abundantly satisfied by the fact, that the foot of his young friend was quite sore the day after the third *séance;* and the hand, which, in the fourth *séance*, he had more particularly practiced on with the pin, was found covered with red spots in the places where he had inadvertently pressed the pin within the surface of the skin.

The conclusion which would, he conceived, be inevitably arrived at from these results, must be confirmatory of the statements so frequently put forth,—as to the adaptation of the condition of mesmerized patients for the undergoing of *operations* without either anxiety or pain. From his own experiments,—now imperfectly described,—he, Dr. S., felt fully convinced, that, had the operator, in an amputation, had his patient in the condition of Miss H., whilst he was relatively in that of the magnetizer, not only could an operation have been performed without pain, but, possibly, under an experience of pleasurable sensations!

6. *The attachment of the hands, feet, &c., of the magnetized subject, immoveably, as to any power in herself, to the sofa, or to the floor of the room.*

Of this species of phenomena, he, the lecturer, had hitherto been himself incredulous. He had been disposed to ascribe to deception on the part of the operator, or intention on the part of the subject, the phenomena of this kind which he had witnessed in some public exhibitions; and where he had heard of specific cases, altogether beyond suspicion, because of the known integrity of the parties, he had still doubted, in respect, to the *extent* of the influence asserted, whether the observers might not have been deceived? All, therefore, which he could justly claim from those who, like himself, had been incredulous, was to give credit to him and the lady who kindly submitted to be his subject of experiment, for their personal integrity,—and then, duly considering the record he had to give of what he had himself, instrumently, accomplished, judge according to fair and just judgment.

Finding, on his second *séance* with Miss H——, such a wonderful power and effect, magnetically or electrically, when he breathed on any article in a condition adverse to the polarities of his subject,—it occurred to him to try, whether, by any such process, as that referred to, he could attach her hand to the back of the sofa? The idea of this experiment, as well as the species of attachment he proposed to try, was stimulated in some degree by a matter of convenience, viz:—the securing his subject, *on the sofa*, (she having previously

followed him when he retreated from her side) whilst he should try certain experiments, respecting community of taste, when out of contact. He made the contemplated trial, breathing on the back of the sofa and then placing the flat of Miss H——'s left hand on the spot, when, to his no small surprise, he found she could not remove it. For, when he now retired into the middle of the room, though Miss H—— nearly threw herself off the sofa in the effort to follow, her hand remained steadily affixed. He next attached, by the like process, the other hand to the sofa pillow, and both the feet to the foot of the sofa. All were found to be attached, as to any power in herself, immoveably. And so rigidly were the feet retained that, though he, Dr. S., exerted considerable force in attempting to raise them, he was unable, whilst in a sitting posture at least, to effect his object.

Subsequently, when Miss H—— had followed him on the floor, he tried another experiment of which he had often heard, and as constantly disbelieved;—the making of a line, or circle, on the floor with his hand, with the view of arresting the movements of his subject within that invisible cordon. The trial, to his great surprize, succeeded; for his subject, who had aforetime followed him in his meanderings amid the furniture of the room, was now suddenly arrested; and arrested, as it appeared, by such irresistable agency, that,

in her anxiety to pass, she supplicated in the most earnest and touching manner to be released, throwing herself into postures which, for expressiveness and gracefulness, were fit for studies for the painter or statuary! So touching and earnest indeed, was the manner of Miss H——, whilst thus apparently held by an unseen and almost unimaginable power,—that those who witnessed the scene were greatly moved by it, one of the ladies, especially, even to tears.

Explanation of this strange phenomenon, he, Dr. S., should not in the present place, attempt, except *negatively*, to give. That it was not the effect of *attraction*, according to the ordinary nature of this principle, he had obtained, he thought, conclusive proof. He had placed his silk handkerchief beneath the hand which he attached to the back of the sofa, and then raised, without undue violence, the previously attached hand. The handkerchief remained, when the hand was drawn off; though the hand instantly fell back to its place, when he relinquished his hold of it. He again interposed a book betwixt the hand and the sofa; but the hand which had seemed to be attached to the book, could be raised, whilst the book remained in its place.

In respect to the apparent attachment to the floor, too, his present explanation would be little more than negative. It was not, he believed, from the force of either attractive or repellent

powers in the magnetized line on the floor. If the attracted subject had not *felt* the act done by the magnetizer on the floor, he doubted whether she would have been arrested at all, in her attempt to step beyond it. For on his quickly turning round the screen, when his subject, on the other side, was free to follow, and making a stroke of his hand on the floor, as he had done before,—she crossed the invisible line, in her progress whilst following him, without apparent consciousness, or any interruption.

He might mention in this connection, the embarrassing effects, produced on the sleep-walker whilst following him, from proximity of the parties present at the *séance*. The painful sensation she seemed to experience, and the sudden starts she made, when she came unexpectedly near any one; the indications of aversion, or almost terror, she manifested, as arrested in her course when he, Dr. S., slipped betwixt the chairs whereon two ladies were seated,—were singularly curious and interesting.

7. Community of taste out of contact.

In the first two *séances*, he, Dr. S., had tested this striking phenomenon in a variety of ways. He had found that any thing taken from the table, or the hand of another person, or even out of his own pocket, being a substance to be tasted, produced, on his eating or drinking it, disturbing

effects. He thus tasted, with his back turned to Miss H——, and whilst he stood in the middle of the room,—a variety of substances—such as fruit, or ginger, lozenges, wine, or what was most offensive, a decoction of bark. Decided marks of disturbance instantly followed each trial of this kind; whilst effects, as of extreme or sickening disgust, were produced by the sympathy of taste when he took some of the decoction of bark. But still more surprizing was the change, from the suffering expression, or displeased scowl, when having breathed upon either of the articles previously so distressing, the features were found to relax, and, as he continued to breath on it, the face at length indicated satisfaction, whilst the lips and mouth began to move as if enjoying something agreeable. Even the disgusting decoction, after it had been duly breathed upon, produced an expression of at least questioning approval, if not of satisfaction, in the sympathy of taste!

But these experiments being all made within the ordinary range of vision,—though, indeed, not visible, because of the operator's position, and of the closed eyes of the subject,—it was deemed desirable, in order to the demonstration being incontrovertible, to repeat them behind the screen. Dr. S., having, therefore, secured his friend under experiment from rising to follow him,—by breathing on the sofa and attaching her

hands thereto,—he went behind the screen, and, whilst others watched the effects, he repeated several of the experiments of tasting. On this occasion he took lozenges, to eat, and some strong tea, which he had prepared in a vial, to drink,—and the effects were precisely as before. On tasting any of these, as they first came to hand, Miss H——'s countenance became greatly disdisturbed. Asking her the reason, she complained —"it was unpleasant"—"she did not like it"—and requested him not to take it! But just as before, when he tasted more of any of the same articles after handling them and breathing upon them, the countenance changed its expression, not unfrequently into that of pleasure,—whilst she would sometimes answer to the question "whether she liked it?"—"yes"—or "more; more!"

In these latter experiments on community of taste, he, Dr. S., was at a distance of about twelve feet from Miss H——, with the screen, covered with linen and silk draperies, standing betwixt them!

Further experiments were also made at the fourth *séance*, which served for the verification of the results he had just described. Tasting, covertly, a variety of articles whilst he held one of Miss H——'s hands,—her alternate dislike, and complacent endurance, of things unpleasant, were most characteristic of the peculiar phenomena

previously determined. Miss H——, however, seldom named the article he tasted, when questioned about it,—whether it was taken in contact or at a distance,—but seemed to realize the distinctive quality of the taste. When he had taken first tincture of rhubarb, with which she was excessively annoyed, and then mint lozenge, —he found that the effect could not be easily obliterated by the usual process of tasting again after breathing. She complained, almost angrily, of this treatment, saying—"why did you put such nasty things in my mouth?" "I hate them." And even after he, Dr. S., had taken some water—which certainly did not materially benefit his palate—she complained of his giving her all sorts of nasty tastes in her mouth!

Out of contact, and again behind the screen, the effects were similar to those previously elicited; but no accurate designation, he should observe, was given to any of the several articles he tasted in these latter experiments.

8. *A glimpse at Clairvoyance.*

Though he, Dr. S., did not attach much value to his trial of the powers of his subject, in this much disputed and mysterious province of his researches; yet he thought it well to communicate the result of this investigation. He would mention two or three particulars, bearing on the minor phenomena, from which, they, his audience, might

form their own conclusions. The facts, at least, were curious.

A flower having been thrown by one of the company against the back of Miss H's. head, she started, rather violently. He took it cautiously up, quite out of her sight, he believed, had her eyes even been open, and, having breathed on it, replaced it. She was now quiescent under the same kind of contact as had, just before, been so painful to her. On asking her "What it was?" she replied, "A flower." "What kind of flower?" "White and yellow." It was a species of narcissus, of the colours named.

A book was next handed to him. It was a reprint of an old edition of "Sir John Maundevile's Voige and Travaile," and was opened at a page containing a curious wood cut,—a man with a goose's head. He placed it cautiously on the top of Miss H's. head, and she immediately burst out in a laugh, remarking—"how funny," —"how queer." "What is it?" Dr. S. asked. "I don't know," was the reply; "but it's very queer." Another page was then applied to the top of the head, where there was a cut of a bird with two necks and two heads. She expressed annoyance, and said, "I don't like it: it's heavy: take it away." "What is it?" he enquired. "It's foolish: take it down: I don't like *old* books." "It's not an old book," he replied. "It is," she repeated: "I don't like old books."

He finally suggested for her consideration a residence of his sister's in Yorkshire, asking her to describe it. In order to bring it more fully before her mind, he described the general locality of the house, as being about six miles from Whitby, near the railway, and proposed that she, Miss H——, should take a journey with him there. He then asked her "if she could describe the house?" She complained of "being too sleepy": then of "its being too dark." Keeping her to the subject, she at last said,—"Oh, I think I see it now—it's a white house; but it is too dark: foggy." "What *kind* of house is it?" "Not very large; but friendly; comfortable." "What is the form of it?" he then enquired. "Is it high and narrow, or broad?" "Broad: not very high," was the reply. "Is it all the same height?" "No: it is higher in the middle." "Do you see any thing particular in the kitchen?" —he further asked,—"Or any pictures in the rooms?" "No: it is too dark; I can't see it." "What do you see else?" "There is a bridge." "What kind of bridge?" "Red: it is brick, I think."

Now these several particulars, except what was said about the bridge, happened to be correct. And all, but the bridge, he had himself *thought* about. There were three bridges very near the house; but none of them built of brick. Were the particulars thus consistently described derived

from pictures in his mind? Or were they happy guesses? To him, the results, though curious, did not appear conclusive. The facts were before his audience; they must judge for themselves.

9. *The stimulating of natural faculties, and of educational acquirements.*

Among the great variety of interesting phenomena elicited in his experiments with Miss H——, there was nothing in any of the results, he believed,—not even in those of which he had himself been most incredulous,—at all bordering on the supernatural. Nor was there anything in the beautiful and astonishing effects he had now to describe, beyond what might be reasonably ascribed to an extraordinary excitement and stimulation of natural faculties and educational acquirements.

The phenomena to which specially he referred, had respect to extemporaneous singing and dramatic action—which were elicited in the manner he would now attempt to describe.

On one occasion—the last and most important *séance* of the series under review,—he had arrested the progress of Miss H., whilst following him about the room, by passing his hand rapidly, in a semi-circular line, over the carpet in advance of her. The anxiety she evinced, as he, Dr. S., retired from her beyond this species of magic barrier, was productive of actions and sensible

emotions of a highly interesting and dramatic description,—now supplicating, now coaxing, with such singular variety of touching expression, as to bring out the feelings of her friends in sympathetic emotions or tears.

But the more remarkable effects were elicited, when, at the suggestion of one of her friends, he, Dr. S., asked her to sing. For some time she hesitated,—'she doubted whether she *could* sing; she was *too* sleepy; *too* tired.' Urging her to do so, however, on the ground that he should much like it, she said, 'she would try;' and so surprizing was the result of the trial that the parties present were overwhelmed with astonishment and delight. Her song was an operatic piece in German, which none of her friends had ever heard before. It was in fact extemporaneous; yet elegant, varied, and beautiful. From the highest notes within the compass of her voice, which were sustained with undeviating softness and delicacy, she would descend in felicitous warbling, and elegant conceptions of musical effect,—elaborating her subject with the happiest introduction of minor passages, and beautifully executed cadences; whilst the admirable and graceful action, with which her singing was accompanied, yielded a power of expression to her varied emotions, which was highly dramatic and beautiful. Sometimes her feelings seemed elevated, as by a species of sacred inspiration; sometimes

the expression was softly delicate and touching; sometimes, as towards the conclusion when she was portraying some incident of heart-rending sorrow, her mingled expression of horror and woe was of inimitable effectiveness.

The power of highly stimulated emotions, of elevated, pure and empassioned feelings, thus developed in natural action and expression,—had yielded, he was authorized to say, to several individuals of cultivated taste who had participated with him in the enjoyment of the unexpected exhibition, a measure of astonishment and delight, such as, under artistical performance of highest merit, they had rarely realized. For himself, he might say, it was the finest thing, of this species of talent, he had ever witnessed.

He, Dr. S., had asked the friends of Miss H——, if they had ever heard any thing like this before? They had often heard and admired her singing; but anything at all comparable with this they had never heard. He asked the performer herself, in the fulness of his surprise as she concluded,—where she had learnt it? "I never learnt it;" was the reply. "Where did you get it then?" he asked. "*You* gave it to me." "You are not speaking accurately," he added; "do not deceive me." "If I did," she answered, "*you* would *know*."

But this interesting and beautiful scene did not terminate here. He had at first touched, he

believed, by the way of experiment, the place assigned, phrenologically, to the organ of *tune*. He now touched the place of "tune" and "veneration," and requested Miss H——, "to sing something more." How far any result came of this, his audience would judge for themselves. But, curiously enough, it happened, that shortly after he had removed his fingers from the specified contact, Miss H——began again to sing. It was a portion of the beautiful air of Haydn,—"with verdure clad." It was performed, as some who were present described it, with an uplifted face and angelic expression, and feeling of devotion, that was truly sublime! But she did not complete it. "She forgot it; and was very tired."

No one but those present, it would be felt, could possibly appreciate the admirable effect of this performance. He, Dr. S., however, had the support of different persons who witnessed it, in this opinion,—that his description (which he had put in writing and read over to them) fairly represented the facts, and was anything but exaggerated.

10. *General concluding remarks on this most interesting case.*

During the whole of the time, within the several *séances*, in which the experiments, yielding the results he had described, were being

carried on;—Miss H——, never, for a moment, that he observed, opened her closely compressed eye-lids. Her state of feeling, when lying on the sofa, and free from actions or movements of a disturbing nature, was uniformly one of happy enjoyment or felicity. It was a species of felicitous somnambulism.

Every attempt, to make her hear and understand what was said by the persons in the room, failed. Generally their voices were inaudible to her, though sometimes, a loud call would produce a slight disturbance. In order to test the inaudibility of other voices than his,—an announcement had been twice made (not justified, however, by fact) in a quick and loud tone, of what it was well known would have been most startling to her had she heard it. But she continued quietly smiling whilst he, Dr. S., was holding one of her hands.

In no case did she experience any inconvenience, from the elaborate trials of experiments on her, except mere ordinary tiredness, which soon went off. On one occasion, she was suffering so much from head-ache before the *séance* commenced, as to induce Mrs. P——to bathe her forehead and temples with eau de cologne. During the *séance* he, Dr. S., had noticed expressions indicative of continuance of the pain. He placed his hands on her forehead, the flat of the palms, when she immediately expressed her

sense of relief:—'she liked that:' 'it took away her head-ache.' And so it proved, for when she was awoke up she was free from pain and perfectly well. She generally slept well afterwards, and felt no unpleasant effects from her previous discipline, and, sometimes, trying exercises;—on the contrary, she felt better than usual (as it was reported to him by friends of Miss H——) and had been more free from accustomed head-ache.

She had no recollection whatever afterwards of the incidents which, to her friends, had been so striking and interesting. She did not know, till told of it, that she had been on the floor, singing, &c. A general recollection of happiness, with a vague feeling that she had been in sorrow when so exercised on the floor,—was all that she seemed to have been aware of.

When Miss H——was following him about the room, he might further observe, she *saw* nothing, as she intimated, but her magnetizer; and when questioned as to how she saw him she said—'she knew very well'; 'she felt where he was.' Whenever he stopped retreating from her, and took one or both of her outstretched hands, then she was perfectly satisfied, and her happy expression of countenance was instantly restored. One curious variety occurred. For the sake of experiment, he, Dr. S., took up a silk mantle lying in his way, and, whilst Miss H. was following him, held it up before his chest and body

awaiting her approach. Her anxiety to advance was now thwarted by the adverse electricity of the silk, which proved effectually repellent. The conflict of feeling and sensation was strikingly conspicuous; and the mixed expression produced by the conflicting influences was extremely curious and interesting.

It might be added, in regard to these experiments generally, that a considerable difference in the degree of susceptibility at different *séances* was observable,—though less in the case of Miss H—— than in that of any other of his frequently tried subjects:—and he was led to infer that the state of the atmosphere had a considerable influence on, what might be called, the electrical phenomena,—these being quite inferior in interest, he thought, when the atmosphere was damp and in a bad state for ordinary electricity.

The influence and power of Zoistic Magnetism in certain diseases, had been so abundantly proved by a large number of practical mesmerists, medical men and others, that it could no longer, he believed, as a general fact, be considered a matter of doubt. The history of the success of *Mr. Greatrakes*, within the period of 1662—1666, —as given in "*Douglas's Criterion* or Miracles examined," published nearly a century ago, as well as in several other publications of the very

time—abundantly shews, not only that this influence was used curatively at that period, but with very surprizing effects.

In this important department of practical utility, he, Dr. S., had had but trifling experience. For with the objects he had in view, as already stated, it was more advantageous to make experiments on subjects in health, than on patients suffering under disease,—as, in such case, he could not with propriety have diverted the purpose of relieving suffering humanity, by disturbing experiments for the eliciting of scientific principles and phenomena.

In the relief of head-ache, arising from incidental causes, he had himself witnessed and, indeed, instrumentally proved, the beneficial effects of Zoistic Magnetism.

But beyond this, he had had one case of peculiar interest, which, though too limited as to time, for realizing the hoped-for benefits to the patient, was yet amply sufficient to shew the salutary influence of this agency on the system of the suffering patient.

In this particular case, which he had undertaken at the request of a clerical friend,—the incumbent of the parish in which he was staying for a few days as a visitor,—he had magnetized a lady who was suffering under severe pain arising from organic disease. The effect of the magnetic influence was not only soothing and happy, but

totally overcame the feeling of suffering, and resulted in unwonted sleep. Speaking to one of her sisters of the feelings she had realised, after one of the early experiments, she said—"I have been in heaven." In eight trials out of nine, she had always realized perfect relief from suffering, and an experience of the sweetest composure and enjoyment,—though no sleep, distinctly magnetic, was ever produced. Generally, the effect took place within four or five minutes after taking hold of her hands. Once, however, there was a curious difference, when the lady, according to the wishes of her friends, was attempted to be magnetized after she went to bed. She was then suffering great agony from an incidental cause. The taking of her hands and looking her in the face, by Dr. S., yielded some relief; but the usual passes, which were always felt to be delightful, could not be satisfactorily made on account of a great thickness of bed clothes. Over the face and chest, however, where there was nothing but a shawl above the night dress, the effect was, as formerly, relieving and pleasant; but the local pain, which was removed from its ordinary place, lodged, as to sensation, at the very spot where the points of the manipulator's fingers rested at the termination of the passes.

Such was the prevailing and almost immediate relief of suffering, produced in this instance by the influence of Zoistic Magnetism, that he was

strongly impressed with the conviction, even in local or organic diseases, of its practical benefits; so that, under a judicious and persevering application of these means, a world of suffering might, in many cases, be prevented; and, that, though it should fail in healing, the span of life, in all probability, might be considerably extended.

It yet remained, the lecturer proceeded to say, that he should state his views of the *rationale* of the phenomena he had been describing and endeavouring to elucidate. Not that he assumed to give any conclusive statement of the theory of Zoistic Magnetism; but to endeavour to elicit, relatively to recognized scientific principles, such considerations as might aid in rescuing the phenomena in some degree from the region of mystery and doubt, and might place them in reasonable, and he would hope appreciable, relation to means and end, cause and effect.

These objects he might conveniently proceed with under two leading enquiries;—What is this mysterious agency? And how does it operate?

I. The first of these guiding enquiries, was,—*What is this mysterious agency?*

The resulting phenomena of Zoistic Magnetism, had, as, in his first lecture, he had more particularly shewn, very striking analogies with those of

ordinary magnetism; whilst the developments from his later investigations indicated characteristics more distinctively electrical. But whilst these latter facts seemed to point so distinctly to an electric origin, yet he could not from thence infer that this must be *certainly* so. As to *magnetism* and *electricity*, though principles inseparably co-existent, he could not deem them *identical;* but, as he had long contemplated them,—along with heat, light, chemical action, and other cognate phenomena,—as the several *attributes* or *properties* of some more mysterious and subtle agency. And the same essential, and hitherto undefined agency, he believed to pervade the whole constitution of the material world; an agency by means of which, as the servant of the Great Creator, He appears to regulate and subordinate the creation to His will.

Thus whilst these various qualities in matter,—which he, Dr. S., considered as attributes of a common originating agency,—were found, in many cases, to be co-existent,—no one of them could be fixed upon as the *master-power;* for each one, in its turn, might be made the developing power of the rest. So that chemical action, for instance, might be made to develope, at the same time, light, heat, electricity, magnetism; and, conversely, magnetism might be so made to operate as to yield the phenomena of electricity, heat, light, and chemical action.

Hence, it must be seen, that the quality of a *resulting* influence, does not necessarily correspond with, or point out, the originating agent. The resulting action may be magnetical, as in the operation of the electric telegraph, whilst the immediate agency may be electrical, and the source of that agency, a particular order of chemical action.

These views being applied to the subject under consideration, discouraged him against asserting the conclusion, however probable such conclusion might seem, that the grand agent of the phenomena in Zoistic Magnetism *must be* electricity. It might be so; or it might, in its more remote action, be magnetism; or, still more remotely, it might be a species of chemical action produced by the decomposition of portions of the human system, and so occasioning that perpetual wear and tear of the physical part out of which arise the necessity for perpetual renovations by means of food and air. Under such uncertainty, at least, as to the actual quality of the master-agency in Zoistic *Magnetism*, he had not hitherto felt himself called upon to change the designation he had commenced with for that of Zoistic *electricity;* notwithstanding, he might still find it convenient to speak of it, in reference to its *apparent* nature, as electrical.

But to return to his leading enquiry,—as to what this mysterious agency is?

The principle *operated on*, in the *subject* in whom the magnetic condition might be developed, appeared to him, Dr. S., to be that which was transmitted by the nerves from the fountain of the brain, or, in other words, the *nervous influence*,—the influence by which the vital functions and acting organization are stimulated and carried on, and by which the monitions of the will and mind become effective in operation. From the powerful action of voltaic electricity on the animal structure, and on the nerves of animals recently deprived of life,—the nervous influence has been assumed by many to be identical with electricity. But it only concerned his, Dr. S.'s, object, in what he had now before him, to point out, in order to the consideration of his other enquiry,—that he held the mysterious agent in Zoistic Magnetism, whatever that agent might be, to be identical with that of which the nervous system was the vehicle and apparatus in operation. And this might suffice to conduct his audience to his second guiding enquiry ;—

II. *How does this mysterious agency, in Zoistic Magnetism, act ?*

From the facts and phenomena, he had described in these lectures, it would be obvious, that the mode of action of the influence referred to, must be diverse from its operation under its ordinary government. The nervous system

becomes, in certain measure, subject to a new and extraneous guidence. Instead of the direction being from the will and functions of the magnetised subject, it is transferred, in some remarkable particulars, to the agent in the operation. Not in *all* particulars, it should be noted, does this transference of agency operate: for it does not over-power either involuntary functions, or identity of mind; but the operation of voluntary actions, nervous influences and sensations, and power of will. The involuntary machinery of the wonderful fabric goes on as usual; the operations of the mind are, in many respects, free and active, and its general faculties often singularly alive and effective; whilst the *principles* of the mind, as in his experience had been strikingly evinced, seem not merely to be retained, but to be refined and characterized by child-like innocency and purity.

But, in many other particulars, the magnetic influence of the agent becomes the master-influence with the subject. The nervous current, so to speak, seems, in these respects, to flow conversely. The will of the agent acts, in certain muscular results, instead of that of the individual. The course of the nervous action being reversed, the operation of the influence by which sensation is produced, is also, as to the susceptible subject at least, reversed. Ordinary hurts or injuries, inflicted on the subject, are not trans-

mitted to his perceptions; whilst hurts, or sensations impressed on the agent are conveyed, by a singular anastomosing of nervous or sensorial currents, conversely, to the perceptions of the subject. If, in the ordinary operations of the nervous instrumentality, the brain be considered as an *electric telegraph*, transmitting, at once, monitions and powers of action: in the magnetized subject the action is, in measure, reversed; the will of the magnetiser now, in certain respects, operating instead of that of the subject. So that had we the case of two persons mutually magnetizing each other, we might expect, he, Dr. S., conceived, a perfect reciprocation of all the influences ordainly impressed upon the subject,—the will of each one becoming dominent on the other, and impressions on the sensations of either being felt by the other.

Fully to elaborate his ideas of the *rationale* of these altered conditions, would carry him far beyond his proposed limits; yet he must endeavour to sketch, as compactly as might be, consistent with intelligableness, their bearing on the principle varieties of phenomena he had already described.

1. In respect to *the mode of development of the magnetic condition.*

And here he must refer to a principle found to be of very general operation in natural science:

viz., to the power in certain agencies of developing, elsewhere, the like latent qualities. Thus in case of electricity, or magnetism, the active powers of one body may elicit similar qualities in other bodies, having a capacity for the peculiar influence, or in which the principles were existing, but dormant. Hence a magnet may render, by juxta-position or contact, a mass of iron or steel, previously indicating no polarity, magnetic; an electrified body, by mere proximity with another having no such sensible quality, may induce in it an electrical condition; whilst, in the case of combustibles, the power of one in action, however feeble, may develope the latent qualities of the other to an unlimited extent of conflagration.

Hence, a glimpse, if not a correct insight, into, the *rationale* of Zoistic Magnetism, may be derived from our knowledge of apparently kindred sciences; wherein, not improbably, we have to deal with one, and the same, essential agency, modified, in the subject under review, by the animal organization and the principle of life.

The requirements for the development of the Zoistic Magnetism, would, on the principle of development of other cognate phenomena, seem to be,—the previous production of a magnetic or electric condition in the agent. If, therefore, by any effort or power of the *agent*, such a con-

dition were produced in himself,—it is but consistent with the analogies of science to admit, that such condition might possibly produce an influence on, or yield development of, the magneto-electric elements or properties in the *subject* with whom he is in connection.

But how may such a condition be primarily produced in the agent? The answer usually given, and which to him, the lecturer, seemed sufficient, was the effort of the *mind* or *will* of the agent—acting upon his *nervous*, or Zoistic-Magnetic, system.

The philosophy of this proposition might be viewed, in a modified form, in every act which results from the human will. Any one *wills* to stretch out his arm. The wonderful series of powers and mechanism with which the body is endued, obeys the authority with the swiftness of thought, and the arm is stretched out. In this case—according to the physiological theory—the brain, under the power of the will, excites action, by virtue of the nervous influence, in the nerves of the arm—the nerves induce action in the muscles of the arm and shoulder—the muscles operate upon the beautiful system of joints—and the arm obeys the mandate of the master-power!

If, however, the nerves or brain shall be acted on—as acted on they may be—by another power besides the individual *will*, the arm may, in like

manner, be stretched out. Of this fact, disease, passion, terror, sympathy, and a variety of other causes, yield innumerable examples; examples of action, in the nervous or stimulating motive agency of the human system, independant of the individual will.

Hence analogy and fact justify the assumption, that actions and effects on the nervous system of one individual may be produced—as in a thousand other cases they are—by developments in the nervous or magnetic or electric system of another individual.

To produce, therefore, the requisite condition and power in the *agent*, with a due regard to proximity and circumstances in the subject, is evidently the groundwork of the operation, and this, it is believed, is sufficiently afforded by the energetic directing of the mind and will of the agent. But as the electric charge, if remote from conducting bodies, is inert; as the Leyden jar, most highly charged, seems, as it stands insulated, as powerless and uninfluential as an ordinary jar,—so must the self-willed magnetic force in the agent be powerless and unobserveable, unless the circumstances for its transmission or effusion be provided.

But another principle, also comes in, in this process of magnetic development. As magnetism developed in the iron of the conductor or armature of a magnet, aids both in the support, and

for higher development, of power in the master-magnet,—so, it may be assumed, does the magnetic condition developed in the subject of Zoistic Magnetism, both aid in the development, and contribute to the support of, the magnetic power of the agent. It may, indeed, be reasonably doubted, whether any considerable power of magnetical arrangement can be wrought up in the agent, by his mere voluntary energies, without such aid in *sustaining* energy from the subject.

As an illustration, by the analogies of science, of the leading phenomenon now referred to,—of the over-coming of the natural master-power in the subject of Zoistic Magnetism, by the dominancy of the operator—he, Dr. S., would submit to his audience an experiment in ordinary magnetism. He had provided himself, as would be observed, with half a dozen magnetic compass-needles, which he had suspended on *blunt* points, in a straight-line on a board,—the needles being so adjusted, as to distance, that, when arranged continuously, their mutually attracting poles should come very near, but without touching, to each other. He would now place the board in the direction of the magnetic meridian, whereby the needles were found to adjust themselves, spontaneously, under the naturally master-influence of the earth's magnetism. But if he presented to the northward extremity of the series of needles, the north pole of a strong bar-magnet,

this *new* influence, it would be seen, assumed the dominancy,—the nearer needles were turned round, and, as he passed the same pole from north to south of the board, though at considerable elevation above it, the magnetic current in the whole series was found not only to be reversed, but to become self-sustained in the reverse direction.

It might be objected, in regard to an obvious fact in Zoistic Magnetism, that the influences developed in the subject were incomparably more powerful than what appeared in the agent. But as to this, analogies could be shewn, fully adequate, he conceived, to satisfy the objection.

[These analogies were shewn by the lecturer in a series of curious and original experiments, in which the apparently feeble power of the earth's magnetism, was applied for the yielding of sources of magnetism in wires of steel, when hammered upon vertically-sustained bars of iron, such as sufficed to render these wires strongly magnetic; and such as, in larger and more perfect arrangements, had sufficed, as he remarked, to yield power enough to magnetize a variety of instruments and machines attaining, ultimately, to the power of sustaining, attractively, weights amounting to four hundred pounds!]

2. As to *the making of the limbs rigid*, by the will and manipulation of the operator,—he, Dr. S., had little to say in explanation. It was obviously

as he conceived, an effect of the reversed influence on the nervous system of the subject, developing itself in this curious phenomenon,—a phenomenon strikingly calculated to convince the candid, though incredulous enquirer, of the reality of the powers asserted of this mysterious agency.

Instead of venturing farther, however, into the field of speculation as to the cause of it, he would rather avail himself of the opportunity, afforded by this reference to mesmeric *rigidity*, of cautioning those who might witness its production against the danger of the *severe processes*, sometimes foolishly, if not brutally, adopted, for testing the extent or reality of the phenomenon. As to this, he was anxious to put them on their guard against testing fact, by injurious proofs. Cases were well known in which the out-stretched rigid arm had been pressed down, without resolving the rigidity, by the suspension of *heavy weights*, or, what was still worse, by the unregulated force of downward pressure by ignorant or thoughtless spectators. It would be well that all practitioners of Zoistic Magnetism should be aware, that the fibre of the rigid muscles of the arm or shoulder might easily be ruptured by this unimagined violence,—where the leverage is such, when the horizontally extended arm is pressed down by the wrist, that a pressure of only ten pounds must exert a strain of, perhaps, near one hundred and fifty pounds at the shoulder!

A case, in point, was mentioned to him by a clergyman. A person employed officially in his parish having attended a lecture on mesmerism, disbelieved and scoffed at the asserted results. The lecturer having challenged him to an experiment, personally, he fearlessly submitted, and, under the trial, his right arm was extended beyond his own power of flexure. The persons present were encouraged to test the rigidity by endeavouring to bend it; but failing, individually, two young men at length put their united force to the hand, and still without effecting its permanent depression. The somewhat depressed arm elastically sprung up on being released from this brutal violence. But though it had resisted the force, it was essentially damaged by the rude experiment; and no wonder. If the downward force on the wrist were assumed at a hundred and fifty pounds (and it might have been more) the force on the muscles at the shoulder would probably amount to almost *a ton!* It was no wonder, then, that an abscess broke out in the shoulder, and that the arm of the unhappy subject, was, in respect of its ordinary capabilities, ruined for life!

In like manner, he, Dr. S., would most strongly deprecate, every kind of experiment on the magnetized subject which would result in suffering, or other ill-consequences, if inflicted in the ordinary state. Such, for instance, as trials of pun-

gent salts or liquids to the nostrils ;—for, it should be remembered, that, the act of smelling, in our ordinary sensibility, is guarded against serious mischief, by the sensation of unpleasantness or pain ; but not so in the magnetic condition. So that the pungent vapour then unfelt, may produce inflammation in the membranes over which it passes in its progress to the lungs !

3. *As to the fixing of the hands or feet*, he, Dr. S., had already spoken so far, in respect of theory, as to shew that the phenomenon did not arise from any principle corresponding with ordinary *attractions*. The effect, as to him it appeared, was due to a species of spasmodic or rigidifying action on the hand or foot of the subject, induced and upheld by, probably, some electric condition in the object to which the limb might be attached, produced therein by the touching or breathing of the operator. So that an influence, electrically, in the hand of the agent,—otherwise resulting in rigidity on the arm of the subject,—might here be transferred to the sofa or to the floor, and become energetic in influence, and sustaining in its effect, after the manner of the originating agency.

The attachment of the feet by a stroke of the hand across the carpet, it appeared, was either aided by the imagination of the subject, or the electric influence developed by the act must be

very evanescent,—or this act, as done a few yards in advance of his subject, behind the screen, would hardly have failed to produce the same results as in other cases.

4. *As to the development of artistical or extraordinary powers.*

Intensely interesting as the performances of Miss H——, in singing, composing, and acting had been, there was nothing in them, as he had before notified, that belonged to the region of the supernatural. These phenomena resulted, obviously, from the power of the exciting and elevating agency by which the performer was herself acted upon. She was well known, indeed, as an accomplished singer; and, her private friends knew her, as he, Dr. S., afterwards learnt, to have a peculiar taste and aptitude for *dramatic action*. In any former exercises, however, of this description, the results could bear no comparison, with these referred to; the former would be the mere results of a dramatic taste and pre-consideration of the effects, in action, of passion and emotion; but the action he had witnessed, being the simple *consequence* of feeling and emotion, became perfect, because entirely natural.

As to other analagous results, that had been spoken of elsewhere, in respect of acquisitions in language or literature supposed, previously, to have been unknown,—he, Dr. S., considered them

as having arisen, not out of new and marvellously conveyed powers, but out of impressions, at some time or other made on the memory, which, under the susceptibility of the magnetic condition, had been elicited. For we were not without examples, he believed, in the history of disease, of remarkable revelations of apparently lost impressions on the memory, coming out,—like the prepared plate from the daguerreotype camera after exposure to the quicksilver vapour,—in vivid representation of images previously unseen.

In like manner as the tablet of memory is, under Zoistic Magnetism, sometimes made to give out its previously invisible impressions of memory,—it is not impossible but that the retina or the nervous organization of other senses, may restore impressions long before made upon them, which no power of the individual will could enable the subject, at other times, to recall?

And by the quickening of the senses, too, this powerful agency may doubtless make extraordinary developments. For whilst, in certain stages of the magnetic condition, the senses, as to extraneous impressions, appear to be suspended, and may actually be so; in other stages, as to peculiar impressions, the ear may be quick in hearing, the touch and general sensation susceptible of perceiving, in degree inconceivably beyond their ordinary capabilities.

5. *As to impressions, on the sensibilities of the magnetized subject, derived from persons at a considerable distance.*

The extraordinary sensibility of some of his subjects to the movements of persons considerably removed from them, with walls, or floors, or opaque screens, intervening; and the still more surprizing sympathy of taste where the agent and subjects were separated by spaces of several yards, and with screens, or projecting partitions, interposed,—had occasioned to him, the lecturer, more perplexing thought, and had resulted in more enlargement of idea on the wonderous system of influences ordained by Infinite Wisdom for the perfecting of the functions of humanity, than all his previous reading and researches had opened out to him.

Time would not allow him to attempt the description of the progress of his thoughts in this mysterious field of physiology. But he would touch upon some of the leading ideas.

The phenomena referred to seemed to indicate, either that there existed a special medium, amid the space to which these sensibilities extended, capable of conveying impressions as the air conveyed sound; or that there existed an universal power of *radiation* from all animal bodies (extending, very possibly, to every substance or thing in nature) throwing out rays, not merely of heat, but of other subtle influences pertaining to

the animal constitution; and so as at once, like the nervous and sensorial powers, to convey and receive impressions betwixt body and body, each and all reciprocating their influences one with another. Weighing these two suppositions, he himself felt decidedly inclined to the latter.

By means, he supposed, of this radiating influence, the magnetized subject,—often incomparably more sensitive than the most delicate galvanometer or electroscope,—received impressions, both from the electricities disturbed by movements in the parties planted near, and from the sensations of the magnetizer with whom she sympathized. In the former case, a discordant effect was produced on the sentient powers of the subject, by reason of the incongruity of the radiating influences; in the latter case, there seemed to be a resonance, like that of synchronous musical strings, causing the sympathizing sensibilities of the subject, to harmonize with the influence of the magnetizing agent.

The ordinary effects of radiation, in the reciprocating of diversities of temperature in contiguous bodies, and tending to bring all into a similar state,—might illustrate, though in a very imperfect degree, the supposed radiation of other physical influences betwixt man and man. Whilst the wonderful, (because not generally appreciated,) influences radiating betwixt associated individuals among men,—might serve as an analogy for the

understanding of other striking physical phenomena which, in modern times, have been indicated by photographic research. If it be so, that the light from any object cast into definite shape by a convex lens, and then thrown upon an ordinary surface of polished metal, may leave an impression thereon; or if it be so, that a medal or cameo placed immediately over a like polished surface, but without contact, may, by reason of its mysterious radiation, leave a picture of itself on the proximate metal;—may it not also be consistently imagined that man, in his *individuality*, may be thus radiating, on things around, characteristic impressions, (and these not by any means transcient or evanescent,) such as, by faculties peculiarly ordered, and sensibilities specially elicited, may be perceived and identified?

With radiations and emanations of *generic* characteristics and differences we were sufficiently familiar. We could easily distinguish, by our ordinary perceptions, the heat of the sun from that of a fire. We might distinguish, too, betwixt the heat radiated from a fire of coal, and that from a fire of wood; or of a particular kind of coal, such as the anthracite, from the ordinary bituminous coal; or of a heated furnace of iron, from the heat of a brick kiln.

But whilst these differences, generally or specifically, might be perceived,—differences in individual radiations from fires of the same seam

of coal, and of like intensity and mass, could hardly be looked for. Not so, however, as to emanations from different persons. As to *inorganic* substances, various separate masses might be precisely similar and yield precisely the like emanations; but as to *organic* substances, no two individual specimens would be found *perfectly* and *entirely* alike. Similar as the leaves of the elm might, to ordinary observation, appear to be to one another; no two leaves of the same tree, or in a forest of the same trees, would be found to be *exactly* the same.

Hence it may be imagined, that the subtle etherial principle which he, the lecturer argued, proceeded from every particular creature, might be in like manner modified, generally, by the organization and qualities of the tribe to which it belonged, and, *individually*, by the peculiarities of personal identity. In this view, the Zoistic Magnetism of each individual might reasonably be supposed to be peculiarly personal and distinctive from all others; to have an identity in its emanations, as distinctive as the personality of the being from which it flowed. Hence we might understand something of the phenomena of the *scent* of a dog:—how, he being magnetized, as it were, by the kindness or attaching influence of his master, has a perception of his master's footsteps, and, in certain cases, so sensitively, as to enable him to trace, by the emanations impressed

on the ground, his master's course, not only to great distances, but, possibly, through the bewildering mazes and mixture of other influences, in the market or the fair !

If the phenomena of *scenting* be favourable to the theory of emanations, characterized by identity of person, for which, he, Dr. S., argued ; the fact of a peculiar perception existing in some individuals, of the proximity of certain animals, —such as of a cat, for instance, however concealedly, being in the room—should be deemed as indicative of a somewhat analagous emanation from the animal tribes generally.

For so he believed the fact to be. From consideration of the phenomena he had been the instrument of developing in cases of Zoistic Magnetism,—he could find no other rational explanation but in some such influence as that he had attempted to describe,—an influence carried, perhaps, as an atmosphere, around every living creature, and sending off emanations, too, in every direction.

6. *As to the operation of Zoistic Magnetism curatively.*

Of the extent to which this powerful agency was capable of operating ; of the diseases to which it might be applicable when all other means of relief had failed ; of the beneficial results, in practice, which had been derived to suffering humanity through the philanthropic efforts of

persons not medically educated, as well as under the manipulations or direction of regular practitioners,—he, the lecturer, did not mean to enlarge. But only whilst stating his own conviction of a capability in this mysterious power of effecting most beneficial results for man,—he purposed to state the views he entertained of the rationale of its curative operations.

In regard to the benefits it was capable of affording in the suspension of pain, under suffering, and of sensation under pain-yielding operations,—he had witnessed and described circumstances, calculated, he hoped, to convince his audience, that these assumptions of beneficial influence in Zoistic Magnetism, were matters of fact. How this power might operate for the effecting of these specific purposes, he had already indicated his ideas.

His views of the principle on which this influence was capable of acting *curatively*, might be further set forth. As many cases of human suffering arose from deprivation of sleep,—the inducing of sleep, without the use of mischievous narcotics or soporifics,—seldom administered without the entailment of painful reactions or aggravation of the evil,—must of itself be calculated to act very beneficially. For sleep so induced—by means of mutual sympathies and reciprocating influences inherent in man—might be well deemed to be favourable to the restoration of other functions of life, and so to the aiding

the vital elasticities in recovering dominion over the prostrate frame.

Beyond this important influence, he, Dr. S., could well believe, that the magnetisms of the *healthful* operator might serve to stimulate the disordered or paralysed power of the nervous agency in the diseased subject; that an abundance, too, of the vital energy, in the one party, might be brought in aid of the defective vitality, of the other party; that the physical strength of the agent might yield renovation of strength in the atrophied subject; and that the commanding nervous power of the magnetizer over that of the magnetized,—might overcome and regulate, what he might call, the nervous congestion that had been productive of disease.

As a distributive agent, in regard to congested or disordered nervous influence,—this master-principle, duly in operation, should, he conceived, have a very beneficial influence. In local inflammation, it would appear, there was not only a determination of blood to the place, but an excess of nervous action productive of soreness, —which of these was the cause and which the effect, it was not for him to say,—but if the fact be so, then, he must assume, that the magnetic manipulation would be calculated, as his own experiments indicated, to draw off the nervous congestion, and to distribute the nervous influence in regular circuit, and so, both to reduce the inflammatory action, and to yield a soothing

effect on the general system. For, according to the views he entertained, the process of magnetization produced arrangement of the electric or magnetic elements of the human system; and, so, tended to restore the equable circulation of the influence, or fluid, transmitted by the nerves.

If in these views, however, he, the lecturer, were correct,—he must suggest a caution in the use of this agency curatively, as to the risk of employing a *debilitated* or an *unhealthy* magnetizer. In such case, the magnetic manipulation, instead of being beneficial, might result in mischievous or pernicious consequences. He had, indeed, known a case of this very description. Where, under his hands, extraordinarily relief and benefit had been experienced by a greatly suffering invalid,—his place, as magnetizer, had been taken by a member of the domestic circle. But he, being of a debilitated constitution, produced a converse result from that which was designed, and looked for; the patient lost strength rapidly, whilst the operator realized an invigorating influence out of the still existing physical strength of the individual he sought to relieve!

He, Dr. S., might finally state, as to the beneficial application of Zoistic Magnetism,—that the results he had obtained in the department of polarities, had, according to his theory, an important bearing on the efficiency of this agency curatively. There might be cases, he admitted, in which too great sensitiveness might be induced

in the patient, but—as from most of his researches it had appeared, that due attention to polarities, was of singular effectiveness in yielding soothing and agreeable results from the magnetizing contact and manipulation,—he was strongly impressed with the importance of the consideration of polarities for obtaining the best results.

In bringing these lectures now to a conclusion, he, Dr. Scoresby, had much satisfaction in stating, that,—whilst his subject had greatly grown upon his hands, both in extent and variety and interest, —all his anticipations of the consistency of the phenomena, which it had been his endeavour to develope and elucidate, with received principles of natural science, had been amply confirmed. That the results he had described were absolute realities, he could no more doubt than any fact of science he had ever had the privilege of investigating. And if they were real phenomena, they were worthy of careful investigation, and, in their results, would doubtless witness, like other powerful agents employed by the Great Creator, to the Divine wisdom and beneficence; whilst the knowledge acquired concerning them, would, like the discoveries in other departments of science, be found practically important to mankind.

The agency itself, to which he referred, as he had already endeavoured to shew, was one of grand importance, and of extensive employment, in the

human constitution,—the same agency, most probably, modified by organization, as that found in mysterious operation in all created nature within reach of man's means of research. For he saw no reason for limiting a power, so clearly assimilated or identified with the nervous energy of a system "fearfully and wonderfully made," to the operations, or effects, or curious developments, ordinarily ascribed to its province. He was disposed to contemplate it, instrumentally, as engaged in the production of various phenomena belonging to life and organization, such as sleep, ordinary somnambulism, fainting, &c. And he did not see why it should not have relation to, or influence in the development of, human sympathies, feelings and affections, and be a medium, (the agency itself, being apparently, immaterial and etherial) engaged instrumentally —under the laws of the Great Originator, and under the guidance or influence of the human spirit and vitality,—in all the operations pertaining to the functions of the living man?

For himself, he must say, he did consider the operations of this agency as being extended far beyond what was ordinarily contemplated of it. For what, he might ask, are these mysterious sympathies and influences of nature, by which man becomes attached to, or repellent of, his fellow man? Whence are the powers by which new feelings are so wrought into our constitution as to act spontaneously as if they were part and

parcel of our original nature ; by which new alliances become a mixing of *identities*, and God's primeval law of marriage yields a new and mysterious oneness ? Whence are the acute perceptions by which a footstep, scarcely heard, becomes sensibly vibratory on affection's delicate chords ? Whence arise the occasional aversions betwixt individuals, sometimes quite unaccountable and undesigned, when first they are brought together ; and the unreflective repellent effects of some society into which they may accidentally be thrown ? Whence arise, on the other hand, the sweet sympathies springing up betwixt certain individuals, —often spontaneous, undefined, uncherished,—by which, at first meeting, heart seems to assimilate with heart, so as to resolve the surprising sympathies into confiding affection ? And whence, again, are those intuitive influences,—such as a mere glance of the eye, an incidental movement, the utterance of a word, a touch of the hand,— which become electrical in operation, and often enduring in their results ?

These things, he, Dr. S., did not view as mere physical effects, or the direct operations of Zoistic Magnetism ; but (as research and fact might justify the supposition) as being, not improbably, elicited out of the human mind and organization, instrumentally, by this strange power in animated nature. But, even so,—should the doctrine assumed, be in reality established,—the advance in knowledge could be held only as an obscure glance

into the mystery of the Divine handy-work. As of old it was said, so might he call it to mind; that "no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end": "Lo, these are *parts* of His ways; but how *little a portion* is heard of Him!"

POSTSCRIPT.

The *Author* of the foregoing investigations (as he may now with but limited exception style himself) having begun with an ADVERTISEMENT, finds it needful to finish with a POSTSCRIPT. For it may be necessary to explain that, as some important and instructive investigations were being carried on during the progress of this publication through the press, he has freely availed himself of the new information they yielded. But this he must, of course, have done, at some risk of discrepancy betwixt the views he had stated at the outset, and the more enlarged conceptions derived from progressive developments. If any such discrepancies should appear, the statement now appended, may serve to explain the fact, if not to excuse the defect; and, it should serve too, to account for, and he hopes to excuse, the extension of the second lecture, in length and quantity, beyond its due proportions.

No experiments, it will have been observed, were made in the course of the delivery of these lectures, in the actual department of which they treated; but only in what were deemed cognate sciences. Experimental elucidation of the phenomena deseribed was not attempted, because of the Author's investigations having been made on a class of persons who could not, with propriety, appear before a public audience; and as he himself had never been satisfied with the experiments he had witnessed in public lectures on *hired* subjects, he could not expect the confidence of his audience in the substitution of such for the actual cases on which his researches had been made.

In conclusion, the Author may notice an enquiry which has sometimes been made of him, personally, in respect to his researches in Zoistic Magnetism, viz:—why the experiments herein referred to were so prevalently made on female subjects? In reply, it may suffice to mention, two or three principal reasons:—1. Because his experiments were generally made with persons who voluntarily offered themselves, and these happened, almost entirely, to be ladies:—2. Because he found, with those who so offered, entire confidingness, and no one instance of attempted deception, and, but rarely, any endeavour to resist the influence:—3. Because when these scientific developments were being elicited in *healthful* subjects—with whom the magnetic condition is much less easily produced, he believes, than with diseased persons—there seemed to be some advantages in the female constitution, for his objects, both on account of its readier subjection to the developing influenee, than that of men, and on account of its greater nervous susceptibilities, whereby the phenomena elicited might be expected to be more characteristic, and the electric peculiarities more sensitive. The author now regrets, however, that he had not tried some experiments on the attractive and repellent influence, so interestingly elicited in the case of ladies, with some subjects of his own sex; for however probable the correspondence of the phenomena may be in the two sexes, he is unable, from this want of experience, to attest their uniform agreement.